

INDIVISIBLE SF

October 25, 2018

Leader Nancy Pelosi
Office of the Democratic Leader
H-204, U. S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
2465 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Pelosi and Congresswoman Speier:

We are writing to you on behalf of Indivisible San Francisco, because we are alarmed and frightened by the current wave of propaganda being manufactured by Donald Trump and his right-wing GOP enablers. Fox News, Republican Party leaders, including Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley and Lindsey Graham, and right-wing politicians, pundits and strategists are parroting Mr. Trump's hostile and inflammatory rhetoric. His attacks on anyone supporting the Democratic Party (or seeking to oppose his increasing authoritarianism) are painting us as angry mobs of radical and violent anarchists.

We need you to come forward with definitive and unflinching rebuttal of these hateful, harmful and irresponsible accusations. We urge you and *all* responsible elected officials to *firmly condemn* these blatant attempts to further divide our nation, which only create an increasingly dangerous environment in which to openly express and discuss political views.

This is who we ARE. We are mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, aunts and grandmothers – and the men who love us and join us. We are Millennials and Baby Boomers. We are teachers, tech workers and retirees. We are neuroscientists, rocket scientists (literally!), and cancer researchers. We come from all walks of life and backgrounds.

Yet together we united to form thousands of activist groups across the nation from our living rooms, made millions of phone calls, wrote thousands of letters, met regularly and often with our elected representatives, marched *peacefully*, registered voters, and canvassed our communities knocking on doors. Over ten million of us marched in the two Women's Marches – peacefully. Our engagement in the political process has changed the political landscape. It is this change that the GOP fears and seeks to undermine and destroy.

Instead of enjoying our retirement or the limited spare time our work and family demands allow, we have, instead, chosen to devote ourselves to these activities, not just out of anger and rage and not just out of fear for the direction in which our nation is headed, but also from our belief in the possibility of a more just, more free, more equal and, yes, "*more perfect*" America.

We have found our collective voice and will NOT be silenced. Never Again. We will not tolerate being called "hysterical" or "overly emotional" by those who bow to a corrupt and petulant, rage-tweeting serial liar, sexual predator and traitor, who continues to denigrate our nation, our

Constitution and our democracy on a daily basis. We will not allow our experiences to be dismissed, despite abundant evidence presented again and again and again in stories from Anita Hill, Christine Blasey Ford and the countless other courageous sisters and brothers, representing all races, all ethnicities, all religions, and all sexual orientations – many of whom are no longer here to speak for themselves. We will not be silenced any more, ever again, while our realities and those of other dissenters are discounted and told they don't matter. We do matter – each and every one of us.

And, we know how to direct our anger into constructive action, lawful and Constitutionally-protected protest, and winning elections. We've been doing so for two years, and we will continue to do so. We will not apologize for it, and we will not be deterred. And we expect to hear voices of support and acknowledgement from our elected representatives, not deafening silence.

Authoritarian Republican leaders across the nation are lying and inciting hatred and violence among nativist elements in our society, without challenge from our representatives or the media. By branding Democrats as angry mobs of dangerous anarchists, the GOP is all but declaring war on anyone who expresses dissent, while their own rallies are infused with anger, hate and fear, encouraged by an endless stream of vitriol spewing from the mouth of the man who is supposed to represent ALL Americans, not just his chosen few. They are attempting to divide the country into the righteous "us" and the dangerous "them."

The reality is that WE are the galvanized, the persistent and the utterly necessary patriots who are determined to defend our nation from the reckless dangers of Trumpism and the GOP. Your constituents, your country, and the world need to hear this message from you. We need to hear your public statements of support in social media and the press today and every day, in these critical days leading up to the election.

Respectfully,
Indivisible SF