



*Gloucester County NAACP #2345*

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## Opinion

As the current Gloucester County New Jersey President of the NAACP, a respected leader in South Jersey for many years, a former elected official, and most importantly a woman, I am compelled to weigh in on the controversy created by Radio Pundit Rush Limbaugh.

His attack on Georgetown University Law Student, Sandra Fluke was the purest form of unadulterated hate speech against women, masquerading as political commentary about current government contraceptive policy.

This is someone who has the ear of more than 15 million Americans and earns in excess of 50 million dollars annually from his radio pulpit.

I don't have any information to verify how many of his loyal listeners are women, but I would guess that a significant portion of them are.

Mr. Limbaugh spewed more than 9 hours of vile and pernicious assertions regarding Ms. Fluke's character. He chose not to entertain the possibility of apology until after he lost 12 sponsors and 2 stations that carried his program. It was only then that Mr. Limbaugh managed to give voice to a "tepid apology" towards Ms. Fluke. He was also adamant that the apology was sincere. I'm a bit dubious as to his sincerity though.

Reporters and constituents ask me repeatedly, if the NAACP was still relevant in today's supposedly post racial society. I always give them the same answer. Until statistics prove that opportunity and access to the "American Dream" are equally available for everyone, there will be a need for us. Until people are penalized and vilified for spewing racist, misogynistic, homophobic, or xenophobic language and not celebrated for it, we will be needed.

This should be a wakeup call for every person in this country who is not white, male, and Christian and those who are white, male, and Christian that believes in fairness for everyone.

This should also be a wakeup call for Clear Channel Communications, that maybe it's time to part ways with Rush Limbaugh, and his brand of radio rudeness.

# FIRST AMMENDMENT, REALLY?