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Press Release
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The RIGOP's Wild West Show

Providence, RI – Tomorrow the Rhode Island Republican Party will welcome controversial Florida Congressman Allen West to the Ocean State for some mutual fundraising: they will honor him with a \$1,000-a-person fundraiser and he will in turn raise money for RI Republicans.

The highly divisive Republican Congressman has earned a reputation for his rancorous comments insulting women – specifically Florida Representative and DNC Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Shultz, the gay and lesbian community, minorities, and the unemployed.

Despite his hateful intolerance, the RI GOP has laid out a welcome mat for West.

“Florida Congressman Allen West is not a person that most people in Rhode Island would agree with, much less relate to; yet it’s apparently the type of person Rhode Island Republicans are willing to fundraise with in an election year,” said Rhode Island Democratic Party Chairman Ed Pacheco. “Rhode Islanders should not only be surprised – they should be outraged – that the Rhode Island Republican Party would be willing to invite such an intolerant, divisive person to our state. Republicans should be boycotting West, not raising money with him.”

Rhode Islanders should question if this is the type of individual the RIGOP stands with. Furthermore, voters should question if the RIGOP’s top candidate, Brendan Doherty, will seek to join forces with West in Congress. West and Doherty actually have a great deal in common: they both want to rescind the Affordable Health Care Act. They are against the Buffet Rule, the DISCLOSE Act, and a capital gains tax – any capital gains tax. They want to significantly lower the tax rate on corporations. They’re anti-choice and they’ve taken the maximum contribution of \$10,000 from the Citizens United PAC.

Doherty has claimed that he is a moderate, but both he and the RIGOP are clearly content standing with one of the most divisive politicians in the country.

“There is nothing moderate or bipartisan about Allen West,” said Pacheco. “With his hateful rhetoric about the unemployed, women, minorities, and gay men and women, he’s managed to insult virtually everyone who doesn’t share his extreme, offensive beliefs. Congressman West does not hesitate to criticize entire groups of Americans, and without a doubt should not be welcomed by the citizens of Rhode Island.”

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Allen West Lowlights

"I believe, for personal security, every American should go out and have to buy a Glock .9-millimeter."
<http://www.foxnews.com/on-air/your-world-cavuto/2012/07/05/rep-west-fired-over-government-overregulation#ixzz22O10KWKS>

He wrote the angry unprofessional email to Florida Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz last summer and had an outburst over her in the U.S. House. He said the Democratic National Committee chairwoman is "the most vile, unprofessional, and despicable member of the US House of Representatives."
<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2011/07/21/allen-west-s-anger-toward-women-feud-with-debbie-wasserman-schultz.html>
<http://thehill.com/homenews/administration/172427-rep-west-blasts-wasserman-schultz-as-despicable-in-email>

He said that women who represent Planned Parenthood or who work in groups to prevent violence against women are 'neutering' men. (This was at a Women Impacting Nation meeting in Boca Raton, FL):

"....strengthen up the men who are going to the fight for you. To let these other women know on the other side — these planned Parenthood women, the Code Pink women, and all of these women that have been neutering American men and bringing us to the point of this incredible weakness — to let them know that we are not going to have our men become subservient. That's what we need you to do."

<http://thinkprogress.org/politics/2011/04/25/161001/allen-west-liberal-women/>
<http://www.theroot.com/buzz/allen-west-american-men-neutered-liberal-women>

He compared being gay to picking an ice cream flavor:

"No. I like chocolate chip ice cream and I will continue to like chocolate chip ice cream. So there's no worry about me changing to vanilla."

"You cannot compare me and my race to a behavior. Sexuality is a behavior. And so yeah, I said I can't change my color. People can change their sexual behavior. And I've seen people do that."

http://weblogs.sun-sentinel.com/news/politics/broward/blog/2011/08/allen_west_on_the_economy_gays.html

He said that a good percentage of Democrats are members of the Communist Party:

"I believe there's about 78 to 81 members of the Democrat Party who are members of the Communist Party. ... It's called the Congressional Progressive Caucus."

<http://www.politifact.com/florida/statements/2012/apr/11/allen-west/allen-west-says-about-80-house-democrats-are-membe/>

He joked to his wife, when talking about voting for a bill that would allow hospitals to turn away women seeking abortions, even if the abortion would save her life:

"Did you know that I voted to let you die?"

<http://www.womenarewatching.org/article/allen-west-jokes-about-let-women-die-act>
<http://thinkprogress.org/health/2011/10/12/341070/house-gop-proposes-so-called-let-women-die-bill-that-lets-hospitals-deny-life-saving-care/>

-need more? yes, there's another page...-

More Allen West Lowlights

Said Social Security is modern-day slavery because people are "dependent" on it:

"[Obama] does not want you to have self-esteem...He'd rather you be his slave."

<http://articles.latimes.com/2012/jul/02/news/la-pn-allen-west-accuses-obama-of-wanting-americans-to-be-his-slave-20120702>

Gays in military will lead to "break down"

"when you take the military and you tell it they must conform to the individual's behavior, then it's just a matter of time until you break down the military," according to the Tampa Tribune.

http://blogs.miaminewtimes.com/riptide/2011/07/allen_west_says_its_just_a_mat.php

Says Obama administration too "tolerant" of Muslims who are terrorists:

"We're showing tolerance, which will lead to cultural suicide"

<http://twg2a.wordpress.com/2012/07/04/allen-west-military-infiltration-part-of-stealth-jihad/>

Says racism is over and people who say it exists are doing it out of desire to "instill fear" or because they have "angst:"

"Institutional racism in the United States of America is gone."

"... 85-95 percent, we don't see race any more... and I don't think we do. I don't think you see race when you go to football games, I don't think you see race when you go to entertainment events, movies or what have you. I don't think that we see race in politics. I think there are people out there are trying to manipulate that word racism so that they can instill a fear and instill a sort of um angst, to get people to believe and stir them up and come out to take a side, which, that really doesn't exist, yet we have people that want to create these chasms. I call it balkanization...and that's not really what America is about."

<http://newsone.com/778985/tea-partys-allen-west-institutional-racism-is-dead/>