

Mr. Dan Welch, Chairman Nebraska Republican Party 1610 N Street Lincoln, NE 68508

Mr. Ryan Hamilton, Executive Director Nebraska Republican Party 1610 N Street Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mr. Welch (Mr. Hamilton),

This morning I sent a letter to the President of Creighton University telling him I would not deliver a commencement address to the 2019 graduating class. Creighton chose not to agree to your demand that they rescind their invitation for me to speak. I chose to withdraw because I was confident you would do what you could to disrupt my speech and thus disrupt the celebration of graduating Creighton students.

While I did not want to allow you to disrupt their commencement, I do not mind disrupting your day with this letter and a series of serious questions to which Nebraskans deserve answers:

First, do you intend to continue to demand that universities not invite speakers if they disagree with your views?

Second, how did you make this decision? Since you were voted into office (Welch), Since you were hired by the Chairman of the Nebraska Republican Party (Ryan), I assume you are responsible to the entire Party. Did you consult with others before you sent out your demand? Given the importance of the Republican Party in Nebraska I ask that you release to the public all emails and text messages to and from yourself in the past 30 days that contain the words "Kerrey" and "Creighton" in the subject line. Respectfully, I believe you need to be completely transparent so Nebraskans can know how you reached this decision.

Third, does the Nebraska Republican Party allow Nebraskans to join your organization if they support the civil right of women to make reproductive decisions that the U.S. Supreme Court established in 1973 in a 7-2 decision joined by three of President Nixon's four appointees?

Fourth, if your answer is yes to the third question, do you call them "pro-abortion" as you did in your demand that Creighton disinvite me and further would you demand that Creighton and other Nebraska institutions not invite them to speak at public events?

I spent ten years as the President of the New School in New York City and experienced a number of occasions where students made demands similar to yours. I expect it from young people who need to learn how to engage in important debates. I did not expect it from you. You, sir, should know better.

Sincerely,

Bob Kerrey