

Sun-Reporter



A NEWS JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE CAUSE OF THE PEOPLE • 76 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ENTIRE BAY AREA

(USPS 526-500)

SPECIAL EDITION • THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020

.30¢

BEST BUY IN THE WEST

Madame Vice President

“Kamala Harris For The People”



EDITORIAL

She Will Answer

Sun Reporter



(ISSN 0890-0930)

Dedicated to the cause of the people--
that no good cause shall lack a champion and evil shall not thrive unopposed.

Published weekly by
Sun-Reporter Publishing Co.
1286 Fillmore Street

San Francisco, CA. 94115
Periodicals Postage Paid At
San Francisco, California

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to -
Sun-Reporter Publishing Co.

1286 Fillmore Street
San Francisco, CA. 94115
Phone: (415) 671-1000

Fax: (415) 671-1005

E-Mail address:

SunReporter@SBCglobal.net

Website:

www.SunReporterMedia.com

Subscription Rates:

\$20 per year; 30 cents per copy.
Member of National Newspaper Publishers Association, Inc., and California Publishers Association.
Sun-Reporter has a six-column format, 1.895" per column with .125" between each column.

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1945-1997

Amelia Ashley-Ward
Editor/Publisher



United States Senator Dianne Feinstein administers oath of office to Attorney General Kamala Harris as her Mother Shyamala Gopalan looks on. Photos by Alain McLaughlin

By Amelia Ashley-Ward
Publisher

I reached out to congratulate my friend Kamala Harris shortly after she accepted the nomination to become the Democratic Party's candidate for Vice President of the United States of America. She is, in fact, the first African American woman to be selected to be Vice President by any major political party. I had planned on simply leaving a message for her because it's been our habit for some 20 years to have each other's back and to celebrate milestones.

I didn't expect her to answer. After all, she had just given the speech of her life. It was searing, well-reasoned and at times emotional. She had

just ascended magnificently into history, standing on the shoulders of Shirley Chisholm, Mary McLeod Bethune, Fannie Lou Hamer, Harriet Tubman and other Sheroes. She must have been nostalgic.

CNN and other major networks were busy analyzing her speech. They were comparing her to the politically iconic Kennedys. One analyst even suggested that Harris is the Democratic party's new leader. They talked of her defining speech, its content, and the praise she heaped upon her late Mother, Dr. Shyamala Gopalan Harris, her inspiration.

I was still crying and celebrating, while talking with my right hand, Rosalyn Gillis. I could hardly see through my tears, when a few minutes later Kamala Devi Harris,

my freedom fighting friend, answered me back. I was blown away. I just thought that since you're about to finally kick in that glass ceiling - and we know it had to be you - that you didn't have time to answer. But you did.

I was thinking to myself: Hey Madame Vice-President, what's up with you? Why are you taking a pause from celebrating to answer me with such a kind and loving message?

My thoughts about my friend Kamala continued to flow. This is your night, your time, and your turn. Enjoy it and get every ounce of pleasure out of it. You are now finally reaping what you have sowed. You weren't given any free passes, you never asked for favors, handouts, or hand me downs. You earned all that you have achieved and

climbed every stair to get there. You answered the bell for every round, and you refuse to ever back down.

I should not have been surprised by your answering the call. You have always made yourself available and answered the call to service. And I am so proud of you for answering the call to serve with President Joe Biden to help turn this country around. That's simply your way and how you operate.

Our future VP is who she is and where she is because she is driven in her quest for freedom, justice and equality and she is loyal. Senator Harris at times will stop what's she's doing to answer a call. I have known California's first African American woman District Attorney and first African American Attorney General Harris to be this way for her 18-year political career. To make it plain: She is "Kamala Harris For the People."

Kamala listens and she's an independent thinker. And she'll do the same as VP. Kamala has been characterized as being too ambitious. What a great compliment and aren't we glad. Someone lacking ambition would never have run for such valuable political offices to perfect social change and, in doing so, made the cover of Time Magazine. And, she certainly would not be the talk of the world as an exemplary woman who has marched into the history books again and again and again. Well done!

Thank you, Kamala, for always answering and being there for all of us.

Let's Go Biden and Harris!

Bay Area Leaders Praise Biden's Pick

By Gail Berkley

When former Vice President Joe Biden, the presumptive Democratic nominee for President, announced Tuesday that he had selected Senator Kamala Harris to be his running mate, a wave of excitement coursed through Democratic party circles nationwide. African American leaders in the Bay Area were no exception. Those who have supported and watched Senator Harris rise to increasingly powerful positions in the political arena were unanimous in their praise for her and her readiness to become the nation's first African American Vice President.

Harris, a native of Oakland, has served as the first African American and first woman District Attorney in San Francisco, the first African American and first woman California Attorney General, the state's first African American Senator, and only the second African American woman in the Senate. She has distinguished herself in the Senate as a member of the judiciary and intelligence committees and is known for her tough questioning of Trump nominees. She also showed she is a tough debater during last year's Democratic Presidential primary debates.

Biden introduced Harris to the nation as his running mate during a press briefing in his hometown of Wilmington, Del. "I have no doubt I've picked the right person to join me," he said Wednesday, adding that Harris is tough, smart, and knows how to govern and make hard calls. "She's ready to do



Vice President Joe Biden and Senator Kamala Harris

the job on day one."

Harris opened her remarks by saying, "I'm incredibly honored by this responsibility and I'm ready to get to work." She gave a glimpse of how she will perform during the campaign by saying, "The case against Donald Trump and Mike Pence is open and shut."

Referencing her career as a prosecutor, Attorney General and Senator, Biden said "Kamala Harris has had your back and now we must have her back."

She can count on her Bay Area supporters to do just that.

Sun-Reporter Publisher Amelia Ward, who has been a key supporter of Sen. Harris since the beginning of her political career, said, "Senator Kamala Harris is a history maker and a ground breaker. Her 18-year political career has yielded many firsts.

"I've shared a 20-year friendship with her, and I know that she is driven, and hell bent on fighting for justice for all.

"Thank God for this ambitious freedom fighting woman whose fearlessness as our first African American woman Vice President of the

United States will help put America back on track."

San Francisco Mayor London Breed too is in Harris' corner. "I've long been proud to call Kamala Harris a friend and a mentor. Now I'm excited and ready to call her Vice President. Let's go Biden-Harris." Mayor Breed said.

Former SF Mayor Willie Brown said as a Black man he is excited to see Harris on the ticket as Vice President. "She's going to give Mike Pence all he can handle," Brown said.

East Bay Congresswoman Barbara Lee, who supported Harris' campaign for the presidency, said, "The Vice President trusts her. He knows her and she's going to be an excellent partner with him in the Situation Room and in Cabinet meetings. She's a woman who is fully prepared for this."

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond concurred. "There is no better public servant than Kamala Harris and there would be no Supt. Thurmond without her mentorship and friendship. Amid great challenges, she embodies hope for our nation and for the millions of students

who see themselves in this historic pick," Said Thurmond.

Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA) State President Dezie Woods-Jones said, "I am so proud of BWOPA's Lifetime member Senator Kamala Harris, and so appreciative that Presidential Nominee, Joe Biden, recognized the talent, intellect, and courageous leader Kamala is when making this historic nomination. Kamala is a hardworking, dynamic leader who has proven herself time and again and will make an excellent Vice President coming into the office ready to work.

"She was stellar in her remarks today while graciously accepting this historic appointment and now we all must work hard to see this change come to fruition. We must get out the vote like never before. BWOPA stands ready to continue to lead in making this well-deserved and way overdue action happen. Black women have been the backbone of the Democratic party for many years and yet have been the least represented at all levels - it is past time and a most deserved nomination. BWOPA is proud of all the

Women nominees, especially our African American sisters anyone of whom, would be capable of serving ... but we are overjoyed at the selection of our sister Kamala. I feel so honored and blessed to live to see this day."

Dr. Amos Brown, President of the San Francisco Chapter of the NAACP, said he is "excited, encouraged, and ecstatic that Mr. Biden who I've known since 1991, didn't do what was considered safe. He was governed by principle, civility, forgiveness and had the common sense to realize the choice was about what's good for this nation to be unified beyond partisan politics and to make amends for how historically women have been treated for too long as second and third class citizens. He exemplified a profile in courage."

Dr. Brown, who is pastor of Third Baptist Church in San Francisco, added "I am very humbled and pleased to say that she's a member of Third Baptist and superlative example of what our spirituality espouses to be a follower of Jesus of Nazareth in all of our conduct and service."

Brown also emphasized the need for African Americans to get out and vote in November. He said there are over 67 million eligible African American voters in the nation who are unregistered and a quarter of a million in California alone. He said African Americans and others must make sure those eligible get registered and vote by mail or in person. And "not let any attempt at voter suppression to take the election from us. It's ours to lose."

LEAVE HER ALONE

By Rev. Amos C. Brown

There is a story in the Gospel of John, where Jesus is at dinner with Lazarus. During the meal, Lazarus' sister Mary opened a large jar of rare and expensive perfume and used it all to anoint the feet of Jesus. The other men at table looked on with indignation — how dare this woman perform such a deed? Should she not have remained a mere servant in the background? What right had she to use something of such value herself instead of selling it and giving money to the poor?

Jesus responded simply but forcefully: “Leave her alone.” She has done a beautiful thing, He said. She was to be commended, not condemned. And not just for her actions; Jesus treated women as equals to men, and saw them as disciples in the same way as the men eating at the table with him.

That message has seemingly been lost on many conservative, Republican politicians and leaders, from the president down. We hear from their lips and see from their keyboards the same consternation and condemnation today of a woman who has broken barriers: Senator Kamala Harris. The first woman of color to be nominated for national office



Reverend Jesse Jackson, Senator Harris and Dr. Amos Brown

by a major political party, she has been the target of abuse and vitriol — largely by men — because of the color of her skin and her ethnic heritage.

“Birthers” make baseless claims that she is not qualified for the office, despite being born in Oakland. Racists on the right make baseless claims that she was chosen only because of the color of her skin, despite having attended Howard University, obtained a law degree at Hastings, and served as District Attorney of San Francisco and Attorney General of California before being elected to the United States Senate. The president has resorted to name-calling — labeling her “nasty” — and saying that by naming a woman as his running mate, Joe Biden has “insulted” men.

It is time for good people to reject this abuse by echoing the words of Jesus: Leave her alone.

Senator Harris has done a beautiful thing. She has crashed right through the glass ceiling that has been in place for women, and especially women of color, since the founding of our nation. She has shown herself to be a breath of fresh air in the fetid swamp that is Trump's Washington. She brings civility to the campaign as she would bring it to the second-highest office in the land — one for which she is eminently qualified. She would bring spirituality to the office, along with concern for people's lives over Mammon.

Should Senator Harris's political beliefs or policies be criticized by those who

disagree? Of course. Robust civil discourse is vital to our political system and to making the best decisions we can for the good of all. She has shown herself to be more than capable of defending her ideas and her policies, with conviction and power, as well as civility.

What is nasty, what is unacceptable, is the misogynist and racist hatred being spewed in tweets and social media posts, in right-wing radio broadcasts, on conservative news channels — and supported by the man occupying the White House. This is what is insulting — to all women, and to men as well. This is the source of the “discord” that racks our nation. To repair this discord, we should say, “Leave her alone.”

Welcoming Senator Harris'

candidacy is an opportunity to put our nation's tragic and racist past behind us. Whether one favors her political ideas or not, we should be celebrating the fact that a woman of color has such a place on a national ticket. It is a tremendous achievement at a time when our nation is seemingly coming to grips with its systemic racism and its racist past. It also is the centennial of women finally being able to exercise their rights at the ballot box — a more than fitting time for us to celebrate a Black and South Asian woman's ascent to a national ticket.

We should debate with vigor — and civility — where she stands on political and social issues of our time. While I believe, firmly hers are the right positions, and while those of the present administration are anathema to our people and our nation, there is room for civil disagreement.

But about her color, her gender, and her ancestry, her qualification for office? There is only one thing to do.

Leave Her Alone.

Rev. Amos C. Brown is pastor of the Third Baptist Church, the oldest Black Baptist church in California, and is president of the San Francisco Branch of the NAACP.



CONGRATULATIONS KAMALA!



Your good character, intellect, and track record of fighting 'for the people' and in defense of our Constitution has brought you to this historic moment.

We cannot think of a better Vice Presidential nominee for the Democratic ticket and look forward to assisting you across the finish line in November!

Kofi Bonner & Steven Kay

AN OPEN LETTER TO MY BELOVED BLACK COMMUNITY

Dear Black Community

Please don't fall for the "banana in the tailpipe!" I have borrowed that phrase from the 1980s hit movie, "Beverly Hills Cop," starring Eddie Murphy. "We're not going to fall for the banana in the tailpipe" a Black police officer declared to Axel Foley, played by Murphy. The brother was referring to Foley having already disabled an unmarked police car occupied by cops who had been assigned to watch Foley on a stakeout at the posh hotel where he was staying. Foley distracted them by having room service sent to them. While they were enjoying the "surprise" meal, he inserted bananas in the tailpipe of the vehicle. When they tried to follow Foley, their car stuttered and stalled and was taken out of commission because while they were distracted bananas had been shoved into the tailpipe. The police officers failed their assignment and their vehicle, that was to take them where they needed to go, broke down because they were distracted.

My people, we cannot afford to fall prey to the "politricks" of distraction during the 2020 campaign and elections. We must not fall for the "banana in the tailpipe." We must be clear; our objective in this election is to rescue this country from a tragic tailspin caused by the corruption, amorality, ineptitude, racism and inhumanity of this abhorrent administration. I have presided, with mask and gloves, over too many grave side services because a real virus, COVID-19, was declared a political "hoax" by COVID-45. Our votes are the vaccine that can end the "pandemonic" nightmare that has cost over 170,000 lives, terrorized peaceful protesters with federal troops, demonized and otherized Black and Brown people, abused and misused



Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III with Senator Harris

the privileges of office for personal profit, looked the other way as Russia put out a hit on American soldiers, coddled crooks, while working feverishly to sabotage the election for his authoritarian agenda. Dr. Cornel West is correct when he says that we are witnessing "the spiritual eclipse of decency, honesty and integrity" in this nation under the Trump administration and it has stalled our country in the chaotic shadows of emboldened white supremacy, unvarnished greed, predatory patriarchy and ugly xenophobia. Don't fall for the banana in the tailpipe. The occupant of the White House must be evicted next January, or this democratic experiment will continue unraveling and the American Empire will collapse. We've discovered that elections are a matter of life or death and the 2020 elections will either accelerate the demise of this democracy or set the stage for a "third Reconstruction."

The historic nomination of the history making Kamala Harris for Vice President of the United States of America is a precursor of possibilities that may well transform our current trajectory as a people and as a nation if we don't allow cynicism and a misrepresentation of who she is and what she has done to become a political "banana in the tailpipe." My wonderful Black community, I was stunned by the vitriolic and profane response to a post I made on Instagram congratulating our sister. My credentials as a social justice activist were attacked in response to my celebrating what can be as a result of Joe Biden responding to the political pressure and power of our community and nominating our sister as his running mate (I hope those who want to "cancel" me will use that same energy to "cancel" the blatant bigotry and dismantling of this democracy that is taking place while we are being distracted and falling

for the banana in the tailpipe). Kamala Harris, our sister, from the Bay Area, a product of Howard University should become the next Vice President of the United States. Shirley Chisholm, Fannie Lou Hamer, Barbara Jordan, Coretta Scott King, Rosa Parks, Ella Baker, Septima Clark, Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells, my beloved grandmothers, aunts and so many other sister ancestors must be dancing in eternity while rooting for our sister.

Do I disagree and have issue with some of her past political decisions? Of course. There is no one that I have ever agreed with on every issue. There's no perfect politician. Oh yea, there's no perfect human being! However, when we examine her record, honestly, we discover that she has been wise enough to evolve and acknowledge when her decisions have not been the best (what a novel concept: a politician recognizes when their policies have turned out wrong and they apologize in

word and policy correctives!). My people, maybe we should insist on accountability and not perfection and make her the best candidate and Vice President possible.

My beloved Black community, I have been inspired by Jesus to fight for justice. I agree with Professor Michael Eric Dyson when he says that "justice is what love sounds like when it speaks in public." Justice speaks through public policy and our sister, Kamala Harris, has a track record of fighting for justice and correcting injustice. Amelia Ashley-Ward, the extraordinarily gifted community servant and publisher of the Sun Reporter Newspaper, graciously invited me to address a celebratory event in honor of the newspaper and the late great Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett over 15 years ago. At the time, our sister, Kamala Harris, had just been elected to serve as the District Attorney for San Francisco. She was the first Black woman to be elected to serve in this position. Our sister, Kamala, attended the event and offered remarks. After the banquet she invited me to come to her office the next day. I will never forget listening with appreciation and hope as she brilliantly shared with me what became a revolutionary vision for law enforcement. She does not receive credit, but in the midst of a political climate where successful politicians marketed themselves as being tough on crime, our sister, Kamala Harris was speaking of being smart on crime. Craig Watkins, who became the first Black District Attorney in the history of Dallas County in Texas testified that he based his campaign and policies on the ground-breaking vision of Kamala Harris. Watkins was recognized by CNN and

Continued on page 20



Congratulations

SENATOR

KAMALA HARRIS

OUR NEXT VICE PRESIDENT

Senator Kamala Harris has been an incredible leader and inspiration for so many of us, and I'm proud to call her a friend and a mentor. She will bring the integrity, intelligence, and commitment to justice for all that our country so badly needs.

Let's do this!

Editorial:

Thank You, Kamala!

By *Amelia Ashley-Ward*
Publisher

We were saddened when United States Senator Kamala Harris announced the end to her 2020 United States Presidential bid this week.

When we see a brilliant female freedom for all fighter, who looks like us, we are hungry and excited for spirited competition. We believed like Kamala, that the time is now for a qualified Black woman to finally become President of the United States.

But perhaps there was nothing that Kamala could have done to please the racist and sexist forces of this country.

It seems his-tory keeps repeating Himself.

The nerve of this daughter of a Jamaican father and an Indian mother to run for the highest political job in the land. The nerve of her to show up in debates and take on the well-established white males and hold her ground.

Why are so many frightened by brilliant Black women?

Kamala had to jump out because of a lack of money. She had insiders in her campaign fighting, they say. Her sister Maya was in the mix and criticized. The same Maya Harris that was a Senior adviser of good standing in Hillary Clinton's stolen election. And low and behold, throughout last weekend a high ranking experienced white female staffer's resignation letter was leaked. The letter talked about campaign infighting and poor staff treatment. Now this ex-staffer is working for billionaire Presidential candidate Mike Bloomberg. Wink,

wink! What's new?

Kamala is right, she can't compete with billionaires. And by the way, their money will never make them perfect. But we say she has something equal to offer. She's a gifted prosecutor and a freedom fighting tick who will have the like-minded President Trumps of this world scratching for years to come. We know her.

Sure, there were hiccups and mistakes. That happens in all campaigns. But we the people, are much smarter than the politicians think. It seems that when the world is not ready for change, nitpicking is the chef's choice.

Senator Harris's popularity is unquestionable. During this run, she has amassed a huge following of African American women and a huge following of young women. She will play an important role in

who gets her supporters. Many of us will wait to hear from her before we support anyone else.

We never expected the Senator to be perfect, but we thank her for jumping in the conversation and beckoning these United States to do better and be better for all.

It really doesn't matter if Kamala couldn't stay the course and win. What really matters is that she courageously embraced the movement that she was exposed to as a young girl and jumped in the fight for freedom for ALL. For that we say Thank you, Kamala!

Because of Kamala Harris, Black girls and all girls with names like Ebony, Rosa, Susie and Ling can always believe that their time will always be Now. And just like Kamala, they can prepare for greatness, then jump in the freedom fight, and throw their punches for a

better world. They may not always win; they too may have to get out. But they, like Kamala, can rise again. When you fight for what's right, you are already a Winner.

We look forward to Senator Harris working on the impeachment of President Trump in the upcoming weeks. She did promise him that after she suspended her campaign to replace him. We look forward to having her speak truth to power for years to come.

Thank you, Kamala for never allowing anyone to define you. Thank you for being bold and courageous and for putting your mind, body and soul on the line for the betterment on our country.

Yes, Kamala matters!

Editor's Note: This editorial was published in Sun-Reporter in December 2019



Sun-Reporter Publisher Amelia Ashley-Ward with Senator Harris at Sun-Reporter 75th Anniversary celebration May 9, 2019

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH INSTITUTE - SAN FRANCISCO
CONGRATULATES
KAMALA HARRIS



1ST BLACK FEMALE SF DISTRICT ATTORNEY
1ST BLACK FEMALE CA ATTORNEY GENERAL

1ST BLACK FEMALE
VICE PRESIDENT NOMINEE

MAKE IT COUNT
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COUNTS



Congratulations to
Senator Kamala Harris,
our Vice-Presidential
Nominee!

The First Black and
South-Asian American
Woman on a Major-Party
Ticket!

| You have made history
| and made us all proud!

Noelle Bonner,
CEO of Bonner Communications

"Kamala Harris For The People"

Photos by Alain McLaughlin



Harris with Alameda Superior Court Judge Gloria Rhynes



U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Lee with Senator Harris



Businesswoman Shonda Scott with Harris



Attorney General Harris with SF Mayor Gavin Newsom and Former SF Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr.



SF Superior Court Judge Teri Jackson with District Attorney Harris



SF Police Chief Heather Fong, District Attorney Kamala Harris and SF Fire Chief Joanne Hayes White

"Kamala Harris For The People"

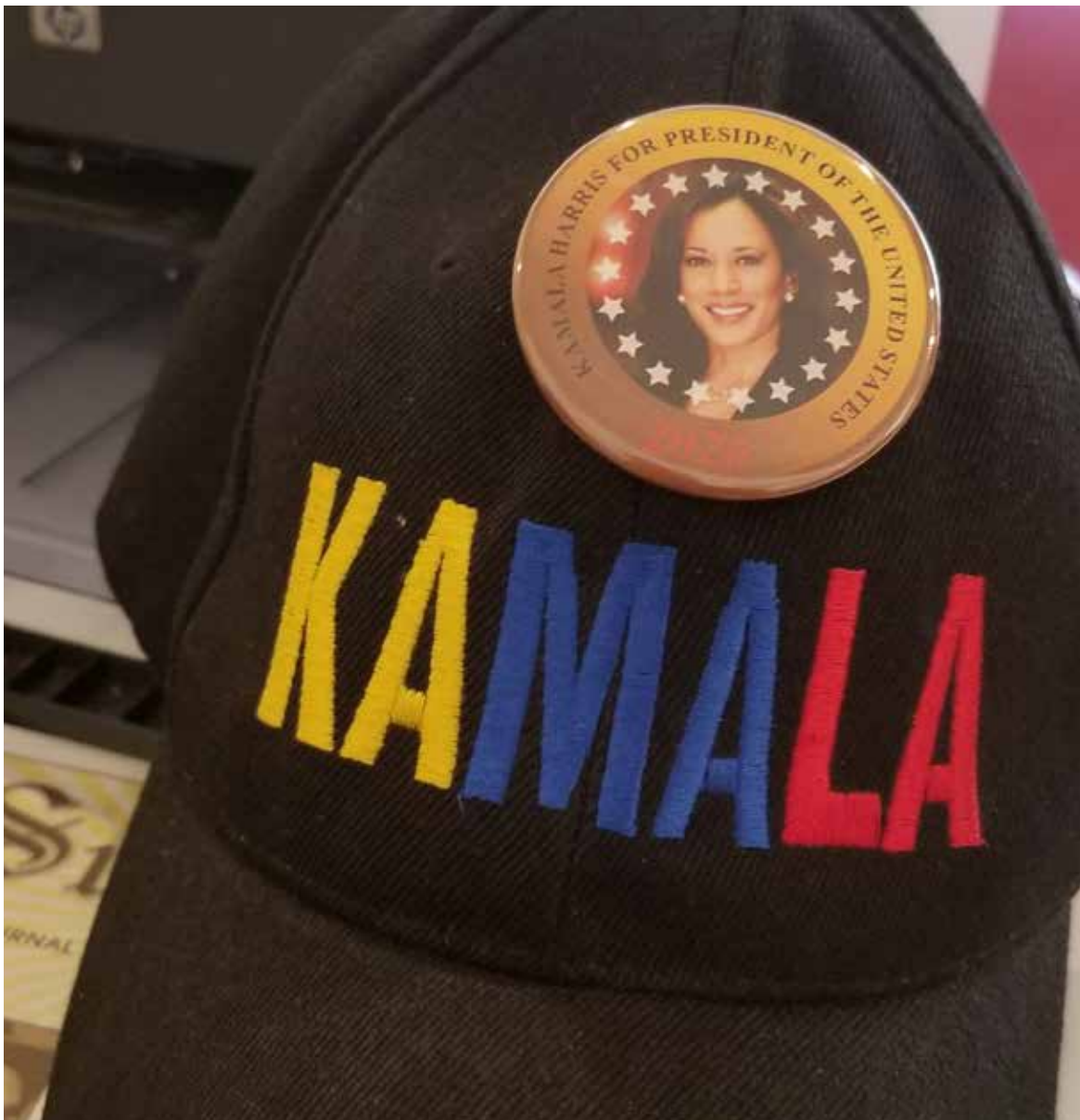
Photos by Alain McLaughlin



Attorney General Harris gives oath of office to SF Supervisor London Breed



Harris with Attorneys Carl and Jane Williams



Cap and button from 2020 Presidential bid



Former Macy's boss Louis Meunier and wife Susan with District Attorney Harris



Leona Bridges with Harris

"Kamala Harris For The People"

Photos by Alain McLaughlin



Pacific, Gas and Electric Community Relations Chief Jimi Harris with Harris



Family members stepson Cole, husband Attorney Doug Emhoff, Harris and stepdaughter Ella.



Educator Virginia Marshall with Harris



Businesswoman Linda Crayton, Harris, Sandra Andrews and Attorney Maya Harris



SF Mayor's Communications Aide Evan Carlton Ward with Democratic VP candidate Harris



Comcast Executive Ken Maxey shares the historic moment with his infant daughter, Maya

Congratulations Kamala!

We love the sound of Madam Vice President added to your list of firsts



**First Born to
Dr. Shyamala Harris**

**First Woman San Francisco
District Attorney**

**First African-American
San Francisco
District Attorney**

**First South Asian American
California Attorney General**

**First Woman California
Attorney General**

**First Woman California
Attorney General**

**First South Asian
American U.S. Senator**

**First African-American Woman
California U.S. Senator**

**First Major Party
African-American
Vice President Nominee**

**First South Asian American
U.S. Vice President Nominee**

**Honorable
Kamala Harris**
2020 Democratic Vice President Candidate



HISTORIC FIRSTS

Shirley Chisholm First Woman U.S. Presidential Candidate



Kamala Harris First African American Major Party Vice Presidential Candidate



California's Political Leaders Praise Biden's Selection of U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris As Running Mate

Tanu Henry | California Black Media

Political leaders in California are praising presumptive Democratic Party nominee Joe Biden for tapping California's junior U.S. Senator Kamala Harris to be his running mate.

"Harris selection makes me so optimistic. I am thrilled about the conversations Senator Harris will be having with Americans all around the country over the next 83 days until the presidential election," said Malia Cohen, a member of California's Board of Equalization and the highest ranking African American woman constitutional officer in the state.

Cohen says she remembers doing a precinct walk with Harris when she was a campaign worker and the senator was the underdog in her race for San Francisco District Attorney. After Harris beat the odds and convinced San Franciscans to elect her as the city's DA, Cohen said she had the opportunity to work with her again on several occasions. At the time, Cohen was a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

"She's smart. She thinks on her feet. She has the acumen to be an asset to Joe Biden and complement him to achieve the all the things that he stands for," said Cohen.

Dezie Wood-Jones, former Vice Mayor of Oakland, is California President of Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA), a statewide organization committed to getting Black Women involved in the political process. The group also advocates for issues that are priorities for African American women and supports Black women who are political candidates.

"It is an excellent, courageous and historic choice and I am proud of the Democratic Party standard bearer Joe Biden on his selection," Wood-Jones said. "I know she will do an outstanding job."

Biden picked Harris, 55, who launched her own bid for the presidency in January 2019, from a shortlist of about a half dozen women that included California's U.S. Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA-37). Bass, who served as Speaker of the California Assembly from 2008 to 2010, praised Harris after the news broke.

"I worked closely with her when I was in Sacramento and she was the District Attorney in San Francisco. I continue to work closely with her here in Washington, D.C., as we push to reform our nation's policing system," said Bass. "California is better because of her work as attorney general and stronger because of her work as senator. Now all Americans will benefit from her work as vice president."

In a text to his supporters, followed shortly by an email, the former Vice President of the United States wrote, "Joe Biden here. Big news: I've chosen Kamala Harris as my running mate. Together, with you, we're going to beat Trump."

Gov. Gavin Newsom took to Twitter not long after Biden's announcement.

"Principled. Brilliant. Compassionate. Empathetic. Honest," wrote the governor, who will have to appoint someone to replace Harris if Democrats win the presidential election in November. "The Perfect choice for Biden. That's Kamala Harris."

In the official statement announcing his selection of Harris, Biden praised the senator's accomplishments

and pointed out that she had worked closely with his son Beau, who died in 2015.

"She's been a leader on criminal justice and marriage equality," said Biden, who promised in March that he would pick a woman as his running mate.

"She has focused like a laser on the racial disparities as a result of the coronavirus," Biden added.

Harris, who was born in Oakland and spent a part of her childhood in Berkeley, ended her run for President of the United States in December last year.

"Black women and women of color have long been underrepresented in elected office and in November we have an opportunity to change that. Let's get to work," Harris tweeted about three hours before Biden's announcement.

Before she was elected Senator in 2016, Harris served as Attorney General of California for six years, beginning in 2011. Before that, she served as District Attorney of San Francisco from 2004 to 2011.

Harris, who is of Jamaican and Indian descent, lives in Los Angeles with her husband,

attorney Douglas Emhoff. If the Democrats win, Harris will make history as the first Black and Asian woman to be selected as a vice presidential candidate in the United States on a major political party's presidential ticket.

"Senator Kamala Harris has been an incredible leader and an inspiration for so many of us, and I'm proud to call her a friend and mentor," San Francisco Mayor London Breed wrote on Facebook.

"I'm thrilled that Vice President Biden had the vision to recognize that Senator Harris can bring the integrity, intelligence, and commitment to justice for all that our country so badly needs during this difficult time," Breed continued. "I know how much it means to have leaders who reflect the people they represent, and today I'm thinking about all those little girls in this country that will see a strong, principled woman walk into the White House and know that they too can make that same journey someday."

Harris earned her BA at Howard University in Washington, DC, and her JD at the University of California, Hastings.

It is with extreme joy and excitement
that we congratulate US Senator

Kamala Harris

for being selected as the
Democratic Vice Presidential Nominee

BIDEN HARRIS 2020



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Congratulations to United States Democratic Vice
Presidential Candidate Kamala Harris.

Thanks for blazing the trail for our infant daughter,
Gianna, and for girls and women all across our nation.



Julia Buford and Shon Buford,
President of San Francisco
Firefighters Local 798



Photo taken by Alain McLaughlin at Andreessen - Horowitz CEO Barbeque, 2018

We Congratulate Senator Kamala Harris for being the first African American, Asian American candidate for Vice President.

--Reverend Cecil Williams

and

Janice Mirikitani

Black Press Honors Senator Kamala Harris With Newsmaker Of The Year Award

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Contributor

United States Senator Kamala D. Harris (D-Calif.) received the National Newspaper Publishers Association's (NNPA) 2018 Newsmaker of the Year Award, during a recent ceremony on Capitol Hill.

The NNPA is a trade group that represents more than 200 Black-owned media companies that reach more than 20 million readers in print and online every week. Dozens of NNPA member publishers traveled to Washington, D.C. to celebrate Black Press Week.

"The theme of this year's Black Press Week is 'Celebrating 191 Years of the Black Press of America: Publishing Truth to Empower,'" according to a press release about the gathering. "Black publishers, media professionals, civil rights leaders and lawmakers from across the country attend the annual event."

Harris, a graduate of Howard University and the University of California Hastings College of Law, is the second African American woman senator in U.S. history.

"My friend and fellow freedom fighter and heroine should be honored and I'm so proud to be here to present this award," said NNPA Foundation Chair and San Francisco Sun Reporter publisher Amelia Ashley-Ward.

Ashley-Ward said that she remembered when Senator Harris was campaigning to become the district attorney in San Francisco, more than a decade ago. When the race got tough, Ashley-Ward said



**Amelia Ashley-Ward,
NNPAF Chair**

that the Black community and the Black Press rallied around Harris.

"The Sun Reporter rented a cable car. We put some powerful women leaders on that cable car with you," Ashley-Ward said, speaking directly to Harris. "We took you all over the city...you told your story, you were running against the White establishment...Kamala won handily in that race and she's been on a meteoric rise, since then."

As San Francisco's district attorney, Harris worked to, "reduce recidivism by offering nonviolent, low-level drug trafficking defendants job training and other life skills education as an alternative to jail," according to The Los Angeles Times. Her office reported that during the first two years of the program, "less than 10 percent of those who graduated from the program were reoffenders — compared to 53 percent of drug offenders statewide who returned to prison or jail within two years of release."

As California's Attorney General, Harris, "joined other state attorneys general in brokering a \$25-billion nationwide settlement



**Dorothy Leavell
NNPA Chair**

deal with the nation's five largest mortgage institutions for improper foreclosure practices during the recent housing market crash," The Los Angeles Times reported.

During a recent Judiciary Committee hearing, Harris, "criticized President Trump's proposal to arm teachers... following the deadly school shooting in Parkland, Fla., saying it doesn't make sense," The Hill reported. Harris also praised students who have risen up to push lawmakers to enact new gun safety measures.

Ashley-Ward encouraged attendees to read Harris' biography online before adding: "The real reason you are who are is because you didn't forget where you came from."

Dorothy Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA and publisher of the Crusader Newspapers in Chicago and Gary, Ind., called 2018 "the year of the woman."

Leavell said that to honor Harris as the Newsmaker of the Year was just another one of the perks of being the chairman of the NNPA.

"We are proud of you and we are with you and all of our Congressional Black Caucus members," said Leavell, speaking directly to Harris.

The junior United States Senator said that she was "incredibly honored" to accept the award, particularly from Ashley-Ward and the Black Press, whom she acknowledged as truth tellers and guardians of information.

"This is a room full of leaders," Harris told the crowd gathered in the Rayburn House Office Building. "And, when you can connect your past to your present and have those connections remain strong, it's very empowering."

In a powerful 12-minute acceptance speech, Harris spoke of the importance of unifying a nation divided by racism and classism.

Harris said that it's important to understand that "we all come from somewhere and it's important that we remember from whence we came."

The Black Press best represents the vehicle in which real and important stories can and have been told, Harris said.

"The Sun Reporter and all the Black newspapers know that the best way our voices can be heard is when we use our voices to tell our stories instead of leaving others to tell it," she said. "The Black press always played a role in making sure that our community has something it can trust."

Harris, raised in Oakland, Calif., made history when she became, "the first woman, the first African American and first Indian American in California history to be elected state attorney general," when she

defeated Steve Cooley in the 2010 election, according to the San Francisco Chronicle.

Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Cedric Richmond (D-La.) praised Harris as someone who hasn't taken her eyes off the prize—she see's the big picture, he said.

"The U.S. Senate used to be a billionaire's club, a boy's club, a White man's club," said Richmond. "Now we have a strong woman, a [strong individual in the Senate] and it's important that our kids see someone that they can be like."

**Harris said America
is at a crossroads.**

"This is an inflection moment. It's similar to when my parents met, as they were active in the Civil Rights Movement," Harris said. "This is a moment to fight for who we are, to fight for the spirit behind and the principle behind the words from 1776 that we all should be treated equal."

Harris continued: "Charlottesville made it obvious that racism is real in this country. We have inequities based on race, gender and socio-economic standing. Let's speak the truth."

Harris said that the country needs to confront the disparities that exist in our educational system and reform our criminal justice system.

The senator, who took office in 2017, said she believes in America and that Americans can do better.

"I can't think of a moment in time when it's been more important than ever to support the Black Press," said Harris. "Especially, in the face of powerful voices trying to sow hate and dissension in this country."

Haynes

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many others for changing the game in fighting crime and violence by being smart on crime, but he learned from Kamala Harris. Niki Solis, who is chair of the San Francisco Public Defender's Office Racial Justice Committee and was often on the opposing side of cases says that Kamala Harris was the most progressive district attorney in California. Our sister, Kamala, established a "Back on Track" program to equip and empower returning citizens for life after prison. Our sister, Kamala, stopped the practice of prosecuting young girls for prostitution and shifted the perspective of the public to see them as victims needing treatment for trauma as opposed to criminals who need to be thrown away to the prison industrial complex. Our sister, Kamala, formalized a court for young adults charged with felonies so they could avoid conviction and receive a second chance. She refused to seek the death penalty because she knows Black and Brown people are disproportionately sentenced to death. I could give you more "receipts" that spotlight her progressive efforts to reform a system that Michelle Alexander calls "The New Jim Crow" that continues to put our community in what Paul Butler calls a "Chokehold" but suffice it to say that Kamala Harris sought

to bring what Bryan Stevenson labels "Just Mercy" to a broken system by developing programs to preclude people, especially the disadvantaged, from going to prison while offering returning citizens a chance to reset and rebuild their lives in their communities.

And now a word to my strong Black brothers. We need to "show up at the scene of the crime" when we see or hear our sister, Kamala, is being attacked by sexism and racism. Kamala is a SISTAH and she is our sister. She has always self-identified as a Black woman. Let's be delivered from the poison of white supremacy that has created an anti-Black mindset amongst us that causes us to question her Blackness. Our sister, Kamala, is rooted in her Blackness but she has always refused to allow white supremacy and male patriarchy to restrict her because of her Blackness. She is our sister and as a senator she sponsored legislation to establish the Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys. This Commission will investigate/provide recommendations to deal with civil rights violations affecting Black males and study the disparities we experience in education, criminal justice, healthcare, employment, and violence. Our sister, Kamala, has sponsored legislation to end discrimination in public housing for offenders released

from prison. I'm just saying, brothers, Kamala is our sister; and we must ensure that racists and misogynists, from the White House to anyone who may step in your house receives a clap back if they come for her with sexist attacks and pejorative descriptions. Black women have always shown up for us at the scene of the crime; now we must show up for our sister, Kamala. I already know that she has the grace and gravitas, sagacity and spirit to rise above the petty nastiness of the sexist in chief and his minions in the media, but they should all know that we have too much self-respect to allow anyone to come for our sister, Kamala without making sure that they experience "consequences and repercussions."

In conclusion, we don't have the luxury of sitting out this election. I've heard too many say "I just can't vote for Biden-Harris..." They have fallen for the banana in the tailpipe. So, you are going to sit this one out because you are upset about Biden-Harris, but you have nothing to say about the "billionaire" who hides his tax returns? You are mute about the "virologist" and stable genius who knows more than Dr. Fauci but hides his college grades and spoke of injecting oneself with Lysol to get rid of the Coronavirus? You're cool with the current occupant of the White House serving

as Commander-in-Chief even though he believes Putin over his own intelligence agencies when asked about the hacking of our elections by Russia? I haven't even brought up how he referred to white supremacists as "fine people," but equates Black Lives Matter peaceful protesters with anarchists and terrorists. If you have decided not to vote in this election you have fallen for the banana in the tailpipe and the consequences will be disastrous. Voter suppression, Russian hacking and the treachery of Trump are conspiring to steal this election. I refuse to fall for the banana in the tailpipe and not resist. The plane of our democracy must be rescued from this tailspin. I've decided to help pull the plane out of the tailspin and then hold the Biden-Harris administration accountable.

Did you see the power flex by our community as Vice President Biden was making up his mind? Our community lifted up our voices and insisted that a Black woman be selected as his Vice-Presidential nominee. My people, we've got the juice. We've got the power to make America better. Our sister, Kamala, is one of us. Let's use our juice to elect this historic presidential ticket and then let's push them to make history. Let's push the Biden-Harris administration to repeal the crime bill. Let's hold them accountable and push them to not only fight

climate change but to end environmental racism. Let's make them end the crisis of mass evictions. Let's make them create a political culture that, both, acknowledges systemic racism, and begins to dismantle it. My people, let's vote for Biden-Harris and make them a transformational ticket that puts an end to poverty and bridges the wealth gap. It's time to reconstruct America and our sister Kamala has what it takes. Our sister, Kamala, has spoken of building a "coalition of conscience." Let's join the coalition of conscience and be the ones to always prick the conscience to "do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God."

This election is too crucial for us to fall for the banana in the tailpipe, especially when we have the opportunity to elect Kamala Harris. Her name means lotus. Lotus flowers are known for blossoming in mud. Our sister, Kamala, has what it takes to blossom in the mud of our current crisis and usher us into a new day of "liberty and justice for all."

Peace and Power,

Frederick

Douglass Haynes, III

**Senior Pastor, Friendship-
West Baptist Church**

Dallas, TX

A LEADER FOR OUR TIME



At a time when 'San Francisco values'
have never been more needed, we
celebrate the historic nomination of San
Francisco's own, Senator Kamala Harris



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Congratulations!

On Your Nomination as

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The Historic Speech

Full Text of Senator Kamala Harris' Speech accepting the Democratic Party Nomination for Vice President of the United States

Greetings America.

It is truly an honor to be speaking with you.

That I am here tonight is a testament to the dedication of generations before me. Women and men who believed so fiercely in the promise of equality, liberty, and justice for all.

This week marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment. And we celebrate the women who fought for that right.

Yet so many of the Black women who helped secure that victory were still prohibited from voting, long after its ratification.

But they were undeterred.

Without fanfare or recognition, they organized, testified, rallied, marched, and fought—not just for their vote, but for a seat at the table. These women and the generations that followed worked to make democracy and opportunity real in the lives of all of us who followed.

They paved the way for the trailblazing leadership of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton.

And these women inspired us to pick up the torch, and fight on.

Women like Mary Church Terrell and Mary McCleod Bethune. Fannie Lou Hamer and Diane Nash. Constance Baker Motley and Shirley Chisholm.

We're not often taught their stories. But as Americans, we all stand on their shoulders.

There's another woman, whose name isn't known, whose story isn't shared. Another woman whose shoulders I stand on. And that's my mother—Shyamala Gopalan Harris.

She came here from India at age 19 to pursue her dream of curing cancer. At the University of California Berkeley, she met my father, Donald Harris—

who had come from Jamaica to study economics.

They fell in love in that most American way—while marching together for justice in the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

In the streets of Oakland and Berkeley, I got a stroller's-eye view of people getting into what the great John Lewis called “good trouble.”

When I was 5, my parents split and my mother raised us mostly on her own. Like so many mothers, she worked around the clock to make it work—packing lunches before we woke up—and paying bills after we went to bed. Helping us with homework at the kitchen table—and shuttling us to church for choir practice.

She made it look easy, though I know it never was.

My mother instilled in my sister, Maya, and me the values that would chart the course of our lives.

She raised us to be proud, strong Black women. And she raised us to know and be proud of our Indian heritage.

She taught us to put family first—the family you're born into and the family you choose.

Family, is my husband Doug, who I met on a blind date set up by my best friend. Family is our beautiful children, Cole and Ella, who as you just heard, call me Momala. Family is my sister. Family is my best friend, my nieces and my godchildren. Family is my uncles, my aunts—my chitthis. Family is Mrs. Shelton—my second mother who lived two doors down and helped raise me. Family is my beloved Alpha Kappa Alpha...our Divine 9...and my HBCU brothers and sisters. Family is the friends I turned to when my mother—the most important person in my life—passed away from cancer.

And even as she taught us to keep our family at the center of our world, she also pushed us to see a world beyond ourselves.

She taught us to be conscious and

compassionate about the struggles of all people. To believe public service is a noble cause and the fight for justice is a shared responsibility.

That led me to become a lawyer, a District Attorney, Attorney General, and a United States Senator.

And at every step of the way, I've been guided by the words I spoke from the first time I stood in a courtroom: Kamala Harris, For the People.

I've fought for children, and survivors of sexual assault. I've fought against transnational gangs. I took on the biggest banks, and helped take down one of the biggest for-profit colleges.

I know a predator when I see one.

My mother taught me that service to others gives life purpose and meaning. And oh, how I wish she were here tonight but I know she's looking down on me from above. I keep thinking about that 25-year-old Indian woman—all of five feet tall—who gave birth to me at Kaiser Hospital in Oakland, California.

On that day, she probably could have never imagined that I would be standing before you now speaking these words: I accept your nomination for Vice President of the United States of America.

I do so, committed to the values she taught me. To the Word that teaches me to walk by faith, and not by sight. And to a vision passed on through generations of Americans—one that Joe Biden shares. A vision of our nation as a Beloved Community—where all are welcome, no matter what we look like, where we come from, or who we love.

A country where we may not agree on every detail, but we are united by the fundamental belief that every human being is of infinite worth, deserving of compassion, dignity and respect.

A country where we look out for one another, where we rise and fall as one, where we face

our challenges, and celebrate our triumphs—together.

Today... that country feels distant.

Donald Trump's failure of leadership has cost lives and livelihoods.

If you're a parent struggling with your child's remote learning, or you're a teacher struggling on the other side of that screen, you know that what we're doing right now isn't working.

And we are a nation that's grieving. Grieving the loss of life, the loss of jobs, the loss of opportunities, the loss of normalcy. And yes, the loss of certainty.

And while this virus touches us all, let's be honest, it is not an equal opportunity offender. Black, Latino and Indigenous people are suffering and dying disproportionately.

This is not a coincidence. It is the effect of structural racism.

Of inequities in education and technology, health care and housing, job security and transportation.

The injustice in reproductive and maternal health care. In the excessive use of force by police. And in our broader criminal justice system.

This virus has no eyes, and yet it knows exactly how we see each other—and how we treat each other.

And let's be clear—there is no vaccine for racism. We've gotta do the work.

For George Floyd. For Breonna Taylor. For the lives of too many others to name. For our children. For all of us.

We've gotta do the work to fulfill that promise of equal justice under law. Because, none of us are free... until all of us are free...

We're at an inflection point.

The constant chaos leaves us adrift. The incompetence makes us feel afraid. The callousness makes us feel alone.

It's a lot.

And here's the thing: We can do

better and deserve so much more.

We must elect a president who will bring something different, something better, and do the important work. A president who will bring all of us together—Black, White, Latino, Asian, Indigenous—to achieve the future we collectively want.

We must elect Joe Biden.

I knew Joe as Vice President. I knew Joe on the campaign trail. But I first got to know Joe as the father of my friend.

Joe's son, Beau, and I served as Attorneys General of our states, Delaware and California. During the Great Recession, we spoke on the phone nearly every day, working together to win back billions of dollars for homeowners from the big banks that foreclosed on people's homes.

And Beau and I would talk about his family.

How, as a single father, Joe would spend 4 hours every day riding the train back and forth from Wilmington to Washington. Beau and Hunter got to have breakfast every morning with their dad. They went to sleep every night with the sound of his voice reading bedtime stories. And while they endured an unspeakable loss, these two little boys Always knew that they were deeply, unconditionally loved.

And what also moved me about Joe is the work he did, as he went back and forth. This is the leader who wrote the Violence Against Women Act—and enacted the Assault Weapons Ban. Who, as Vice President, implemented The Recovery Act, which brought our country back from The Great Recession. He championed The Affordable Care Act, protecting millions of Americans with pre-existing conditions. Who spent decades promoting American values and interests around the world, standing up with our allies

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Harris Speech

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and standing up to our adversaries.

Right now, we have a president who turns our tragedies into political weapons.

Joe will be a president who turns our challenges into purpose.

Joe will bring us together to build an economy that doesn't leave anyone behind. Where a good-paying job is the floor, not the ceiling.

Joe will bring us together to end this pandemic and make sure that we are prepared for the next one.

Joe will bring us together to squarely face and dismantle racial injustice, furthering the work of generations.

Joe and I believe that we can build that Beloved Community,

one that is strong and decent, just and kind. One in which we all can see ourselves.

That's the vision that our parents and grandparents fought for. The vision that made my own life possible. The vision that makes the American promise—for all its complexities and imperfections—a promise worth fighting for.

Make no mistake, the road ahead will not be not easy. We will stumble. We may fall short. But I pledge to you that we will act boldly and deal with our challenges honestly. We will speak truths. And we will act with the same faith in you that we ask you to place in us.

We believe that our country—all of us, will stand together for a better future. We already are.

We see it in the doctors, the nurses, the home health care workers and the frontline workers who are risking their lives to save people they've never met.

We see it in the teachers and truck drivers, the factory workers and farmers, the postal workers and the Poll workers, all putting their own safety on the line to help us get through this pandemic.

And we see it in so many of you who are working, not just to get us through our current crises, but to somewhere better.

There's something happening, all across the country.

It's not about Joe or me.

It's about you.

It's about us. People of all ages and colors and creeds who are,

yes, taking to the streets, and also persuading our family members, rallying our friends, organizing our neighbors, and getting out the vote.

And we've shown that, when we vote, we expand access to health care, expand access to the ballot box, and ensure that more working families can make a decent living.

I'm inspired by a new generation of leadership. You are pushing us to realize the ideals of our nation, pushing us to live the values we share: decency and fairness, justice and love.

You are the patriots who remind us that to love our country is to fight for the ideals of our country.

In this election, we have a chance to change the course of history. We're all in this fight.

You, me, and Joe—together.

What an awesome responsibility. What an awesome privilege.

So, let's fight with conviction. Let's fight with hope. Let's fight with confidence in ourselves, and a commitment to each other. To the America we know is possible. The America, we love.

Years from now, this moment will have passed. And our children and our grandchildren will look in our eyes and ask us: Where were you when the stakes were so high?

They will ask us, what was it like?

And we will tell them. We will tell them, not just how we felt.

We will tell them what we did.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.



Kamala Harris with Mother, Dr. Shyamala Gopalan Harris and sister Maya Harris