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Subject: Fwd: Concern About Your Employee John Labriola - Public Display of Bigotry

Date: March 3, 2021 at 8:01:35 AM EST

To: DHanks@miamiherald.com < DHanks@miamiherald.com >

Attachments: MAR 2021 - VOL 4.pdf (1.6 MB)

Oh my. Quite the opinion piece.

Begin forwarded message:

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Date: March 3, 2021 at 7:48:45 AM EST

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13 < district 13@miamidade.gov>
Subject: Concern About Your Employee John Labriola -
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Public Display of Bigotry

EXTERNAL SOURCE

To Whom It May Concern:

I am unfortunately writing this letter to you due to a concern about an employee of yours that has publicly displayed some ignorant, bigoted views. He is John Labriola, one of your Media Aides. I have attached the publication in which he displayed his views. (page 4 titled "UNCensored")

While locally shopping for books and gifts, I came across a newsletter for a local independent bookstore. The newsletter is called "Sophie's Voice." When reading it to find information about books and merchandise at the store, and was interested in it being conservative in products, I came across an article that is highly offensive to people of the LGBTQIA+ community, along with filled of false narratives about that community. To my surprise, when researching the author of this article, I saw that the author is a county employee, Mr. Labriola.

Are the values that Mr. Labriola expresses in that article the values that the Board of Commissioners have? Are these the type of values that are used when decisions are made for our community? If this person expresses this kind of disdain for one community, it's usually not a far leap to see this type of hatred for people of other parts of the community (race, religion, other gender matters, etc.). Having employees like this is the reason that we have to deal with issues of social injustice - why our country is struggling to be unified. This person does not reflect true conservative or Republican values, and shame to anyone that supports this type of behavior and says it does.

I don't want anyone to label my bringing this to your attention as being "cancel culture" because this is about respect for people, no matter what our values are. This is also about responsibility for actions taken. And it is mainly about concern that this person represents our county leadership in a role as your voice to us residents of South Florida. And it's about my concerns that this line of thinking possibly taking part in decisions being made for our county.

I ask you to please take a look at this issue. I don't know how this can be ignored or how any narrative spin can be presented other than what it clearly is. I have brought it to your attention and am hoping for the best because I can't believe that this is acceptable behavior for a county employee of our Miami-Dade County Board of Directors. Again, this is not who we are as conservatives or Republicans. This is not who we are as residents of Miami - no matter what side of the aisle we stand on.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident