

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING “SAFE SEATTLE” AS A HATE GROUP

WHEREAS the Democratic Party is a progressive party, committed to the material and social well-being of everyone, including in particular our most vulnerable neighbors; and

WHEREAS our neighbors without homes are disproportionately trans, gay, people of color, Native, disabled – in short, our most historically marginalized neighbors – vilifying and demeaning those neighbors both causes and perpetuates transphobia, homophobia, notions of white supremacy, and ableism; and

WHEREAS the Southern Poverty Law Center defines a hate group as “an organization that has beliefs or practices that attack or malign an entire class of people;” and

WHEREAS it is our obligation as Democrats to identify hate groups and combat the influence and spread of oppression whenever and wherever it appears; and

WHEREAS the Facebook social group known as “Safe Seattle,” along with its sister Facebook group “Burien Voice,” has specifically targeted our neighbors without homes on numerous occasions; e.g.:

- Safe Seattle has posted maps of places where our homeless neighbors are staying¹, and continues to take and post pictures of people in crisis along with their locations, even though people living unsheltered are disproportionately the victims of violent crime and hate crimes against them are continuing to rise;

- Safe Seattle originated and spread an unfounded rumor regarding a “beheading” committed by an unhoused person in March of 2019;

- Safe Seattle members have repeatedly suggested that “suspicious” individuals be reported to police as being armed, so as to incur more immediate and aggressive responses in May of 2018;

- Safe Seattle members have aligned themselves with the hate group known as “The Proud Boys” in opposing Drag Queen Story Hour, a program promoting literacy and tolerance in public libraries, based on homophobic and transphobic stereotypes about drag queens;

- The Burien Voice posted the home addresses of proponents of Mary’s Place, a shelter for homeless families, thereby exposing them to potential violence for their advocacy; and

- Safe Seattle members have expressed support for ICE in its campaign of terror against our undocumented neighbors;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the King County Democrats unequivocally condemn both Safe Seattle and Burien Voice as hate groups.

Adopted September 24, 2019, by the Martin Luther King County Democratic Central Committee

Previous adopted by the 37th District Democrats
