

Dear Mrs. Crandall,

I was moved to write you after reading the interview that was done with you by the Los Angeles Times. Although you have the right to think the way you want to, I am appalled at your narrow minded thinking and ashamed that you and I are part of the same profession.

Republicans by and large are narrow minded, self-proclaimed purveyors of the truth. They have single handedly over the last several years pushed this great country of ours into a cess pool of greed, war and corruption steered by their blind captain George Bush. . Rather than focusing in on what's important like our economy, helping the poor, promoting peace and goodwill, they have focused on war, making the rich richer the middle class and poor, poorer, and reducing our world wide reputation to that of a common thug. Some of the greatest programs every put together to help the poor, old and infirm and those who have spent their entire lives working, are being called into question by the Republicans, who use scare tactics to convince people that programs like Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, are old and outdated and will quickly run out of money. That we should instead create an "ownership society" We are becoming a nation of self centered money hoarders who crave nothing but making more and more money and doing nothing, unless there is a positive political gain, for those who need it the most. We pump up big business interests to the point they are making millions of dollars in profit, while the wages of the middle class stagnate. We have lost sight about what's important blinded by emotional issues rather than concrete issues that affect us all, paying our bills, supporting our kids when they go to college, retirement; practical things, important things, the things that are real and give life meaning.

Here in California we are faced with the same type of situation, a governor who is always talking about "special interests" when he has made more than 44 million dollars care of a multitude of big business organizations; insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies, and the like, more money then even Gray Davis pulled in when he was governor, the entire time he was governor. It's amazing to me and other teachers whom I discussed this with that you would dare side with such an anti-union, anti-worker person such as he. We don't understand how you can be that much of a dolt. He broke a promise to the entire state by not giving us the 3 billion dollars he had pledged to do. He routinely talks about "union bosses" who are controlling the legislature when they are helping us maximize our clout in Sacramento. Do you and the rest of your reactionary party realize that without unions we would still be working 12 or 14 hour days? that some of your own students would be toiling in factories, that they would be getting paid slave wages way below "minimum" wage, something that didn't exist before unions. You are a scab and a traitor and don't deserve to be a teacher. We toil so hard for our students, spend our own money weekly to make sure we have the supplies we need and in order for us not to be put upon any longer, we need to ban together for the sake of all the teachers in the state. Why on earth does it bother you if our union spends money on political purposes when they are benefiting us? You and the people like you, are the reason that Unions throughout the nations are losing clout, because instead of thinking for the common good of all concerned. teachers and working people in general, you are thinking about yourself and

your myopic way of viewing the world. Instead of worrying about gays getting married and overturning Roe vs. Wade, why don't you focus on building up your profession and supporting the teachers you serve? Do you realize that you are shooting yourself in the foot? Do you realize that in your selfish quest to preserve what you consider "traditional" and "family" values you are sucking the life out of what we do by your posturing? You are supporting a man and a way of thinking that disregards basic human needs; a decent salary, decent benefits, a work place that is safe, money to purchase what we need for our classes.

Proposition 75 is designed to spay and neuter the people that support us. You are a disgrace in supporting such a measure, and an inept governor who articulates himself like an anvil. You not only deserve to be shunned by your colleagues, you deserve to be bitch slapped in public by all the teachers you work with for demonstrating such a high level of right wing drivel and stupidity. You don't deserve to be a teacher and I hope none of your slanted right wing dogma affects the students under your care. It would be a travesty.

Do us all a favor, shut your mouth and stop providing ammunition to the enemy. We need you to support what we are doing for all of the teachers and all of the union members in this great state of ours. Don't destroy the nest where you roost.

We are going to defeat Proposition 75. You can bet on that.

Signed

Four Pro-Union teachers who think you and the governor and the Republican party stink.