PRESIDENT CLINTON ON RACE, ETHNICITY & IMMIGRATION:
Let's See If We Can Make It More Complicated Than It Already Is

In several speeches, including a June 14th commencement address at the University of California at San Diego, President Clinton has spoken about the increasingly complicated state of racial and ethnic relations in the United States. The President acknowledges that we are a long way from overcoming the racial and ethnic divisions that have plagued this country from the beginning of its history.

Inexplicably, the course that the President and Congress have chosen will create more racial and ethnic divisions in our nation. The official policy of the United States appear to be that if we are failing to create harmony out of our already diverse population, then we need more diversity.

A more diverse population is NOT inevitable:

A half-century from now...there will be no majority race in America. Bill Clinton, June 14, 1997.

The President and others make this assertion as though this outcome was an uncontrollable act of nature, like an earthquake or the tides. The future that the President predicts will be a direct result of our immigration policies. A nation comprised of a multitude of minority groups is one that will be engineered by deliberate government policies, rather than by the natural course of events.

Our diversity is NOT our strength:

Of all the mindless platitudes uttered by politicians, “Our diversity is our strength,” is among the most inane. It sounds high-minded, but there is absolutely no evidence to substantiate it. Racial, ethnic and cultural diversity is NOT an inherent strength. Racial, ethnic and cultural harmony is a strength. Properly managed and nurtured, we can turn our diversity into a strength. But merely becoming more diverse will not automatically make us stronger. Without a great deal of attention and patience, more diversity will lead to dangerous social divisions.

Immigration-generated diversity is a radical policy:

The America that President Clinton envisions by 2050 will be unrecognizable to Americans of our generation. The President is openly acknowledging that we are pursuing a policy that will result in the displacement of the people who built this country as the majority.
Throughout the course of human history, no nation has ever voluntarily displaced itself. No one can say for certain whether a nation in which there is no majority group will be better or worse. What is for certain is that it will be a very, very different place.

**Americans have the right to choose their destiny:**

The American revolution was fought over the principle of self-determination. The attitude of President Clinton and Congress is that the American people do not have the right to determine their demographic and cultural future. That right is reserved for future immigrants. The demographic and cultural future of the country will be determined by the number of people who show up here over the next half century, and the social and cultural norms they bring with them. The future of racial and social relations will depend on how well this assemblage of minority groups and their cultural habits happen to mesh...or don't mesh.

**Diversity is difficult:**

The United States is already the most racial, ethnically and culturally diverse nation on earth. By the President's own admission, we are struggling to make it work successfully. President Clinton is correct that we must all work harder to create harmony out of our diversity, because it is in all our interests to do so. The President is absolutely wrong, however, that we must blindly maintain policies that create more diversity and simply hope for the best.

For more information,
contact David Kroeger
(202) 328-7004