

***OPEN LETTER TO REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDERS
SPEAKING AT CPAC***

Dear Gov. Jeb Bush, Dr. Ben Carson, Gov. Chris Christie, Sen. Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Gov. Bobby Jindal, Sen. Rand Paul, Gov. Rick Perry, Sen. Marco Rubio, Sen. Rick Santorum, and Gov. Scott Walker:

We understand that you are scheduled to speak at this week's Conservative Political Action Conference, an event which is being partially sponsored by ProEnglish, a group led by white nationalist Bob Vandervoort. We urge you to decline to speak at CPAC unless it cuts ties with ProEnglish and Vandervoort.

ProEnglish has sponsored CPAC for the past several years, despite Vandervoort's well documented ties to the white nationalist movement. As the Institute for Research & Education on Human Rights has reported, Vandervoort is the former leader of Chicagoland Friends of American Renaissance, a group dedicated to supporting the ideals of the infamous white nationalist publication American Renaissance. One member of the group described its mission as encouraging "white survival and maintaining white majorities."

Vandervoort's own writings reflect these views. He has expressed concern about the need to "halt the cultural and racial dispossession of the West's historic people" and expounded on "racial differences" in "intelligence and temperament." He has wondered how "race realists and pro-Western Civ nationalists" like himself can counter historical comparisons to the Holocaust and slavery.

CPAC has a troubling history of welcoming white nationalists. In 2012, the conference hosted a panel on race featuring Vandervoort and fellow white nationalist writer Peter Brimelow. And ProEnglish has continued to be allowed to sponsor the event even after civil rights groups have raised concerns.

Clearly, Robert Vandervoort and his group should have no place as a financial sponsor of the nation's largest convention of conservatives. We urge you to distance yourself from Vandervoort's views and refuse to speak at CPAC unless ProEnglish's sponsorship is withdrawn.

Sincerely,

Michael Keegan, *President*
People For the American Way

Frank Sharry, *Founder and Executive Director*
America's Voice

Rashad Robinson, *Executive Director*
ColorOfChange.org