



VETERANS FOR A
STRONG AMERICA

January 28, 2016

Vets for a Strong America has received numerous media inquiries regarding Mr. Trump's planned boycott of the GOP presidential debate this evening and his planned veterans fundraiser.

Here is our official statement:

On September 15, 2015, VSA became the first national organization to endorse Mr. Donald J. Trump for President of the United States and Commander in Chief. VSA made this unprecedentedly early endorsement of Mr. Trump because veterans are leaders and we were not afraid to be the first in the nation to recognize Mr. Trump's inherent leadership and superior qualifications.

VSA absolutely supports Mr. Trump's choice to boycott tonight's planned candidate debate. For too long, self-important and self-appointed "pundits" have run roughshod over the grassroots community, the political process, and have been given an out-sized role in the democratic process. This system of ring-kissing and permission-asking at every level of the political spectrum has resulted in the wholesale disenfranchisement of large swaths of the American electorate. It is ruining the nation.

What we are seeing now, due solely to the leadership acumen of Mr. Trump and the power of his convictions, is the implosion of a cliquish system that never should have been allowed to exist in the first place. In the past two weeks, a group of writers, acting more like a band of middle-school bullies, ganged up to name-call the leading GOP candidate, each of them too afraid to stand individually, cowards tilting into the wind. And what was the result? Mr. Trump carried on, as real leaders do, and his poll numbers climbed. As for the debate, it is well known that Megyn Kelly has chosen to conduct herself as an anti-Trump activist and not as an unbiased news reporter. Why should any self-respecting person be forced to subject themselves to being maligned on television by someone who earns a living selling advertising time for reverse mortgages and gold coins? Megyn Kelly is not an expert in any field except the field of gaining TV viewers in order to sell advertising. A debate moderated by Ms. Kelly was never going to be an impartial exercise to explore weighty issues, but rather an exercise in sensationalism and in debasing the next President of the United States – all for her own aggrandizement in order to secure higher name ID for herself and for her television show. She was a poor choice to moderate an event where the focus should be on the contenders, not the moderators. Fox News now has to live with consequences of their choice.

It is perverse to ask Americans to watch their political system, arguable the greatest on Earth, be debased as a tool for infotainment celebrities to boost their ratings, and as a result, their own personal opportunities for increased wealth.

The American people deserve better and tonight Mr. Trump is going to give them better. By using his platform to help veterans in need, Mr. Trump will be doing more to highlight the plight of today's veterans than any debate could, and he is taking directing action by using his considerable skills to directly improve the lives of Americans he has never met – exactly what the next President of the United States will be called upon to do.

VSA is a public policy organization, not a charitable organization. As such, VSA encourages proceeds from tonight's Donald J. Trump veterans fundraiser be directed to the Fisher House Foundation and to the Semper Fi Fund.

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