

February 29, 2000

Schakowsky Cosponsors Crowley Resolution Condemning Discriminatory Practices Prevalent at Bob Jones University

Mr. Speaker, Racial and religious intolerance have no place in twenty-first Century America. Hate for a fellow human being because of religion or skin color has no place among us. Institutions that teach our next generation of leaders prejudice are breeding grounds for bigots. And political leaders who fail to speak out against such hurtful and divisive mantras have failed their duties and the people they represent.

We cannot afford to remain silent in the face of anti religious, anti-Catholic, and anti-minorities preaching from leaders of Bob Jones University. That is why I rise today to commend the gentleman from New York for his forthright Resolution. I am a proud cosponsor of his resolution that rejects discrimination and intolerance based on religion, race, and ethnicity. This resolution would put Congress on record as opposing policies preached and practiced openly at Bob Jones University in South Carolina. Policies that are repulsive and unimaginable by a majority of Americans today. Some of these policies include the barring of free association of interracial couples on campus. Just as repulsive is the anti-Catholic venom emanating from the halls of this university.

This is not what is supposed to be taught in the classrooms. We cannot stand idly by while bigots are free to spout their shortsighted and hurtful words. We must speak out against intolerance and injustice. Congress must act now and pass this Resolution.