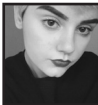


# Donald Trump not fit for presidency



by  
staff reporter  
Rachel Boone

Donald Trump is probably the most infamous name in politics at the moment. Many people may think that Trump’s blatant offensive behavior and extremely old fashioned, unrealistic stances on the issue shouldn’t gain him any votes, but still, his votes continue to rise as the 2016 Presidential Election inches closer. It’s nearly impossible to scroll through any form of social media or even go out in public without seeing his name somewhere-- he’s definitely made a name for himself, but not in the right ways.

Though he’s never been known for political correctness and has even stated that he’s “so tired of this politically correct crap,” the substantial amount of racist comments Trump has made has crossed the line of non-politically correct into shamelessly disrespectful.

Trump’s claimed that Mexicans are “drug dealers, rapists and killers” and then later stated that he “loves the Mexican people,” and that “Latinos love Trump.” What’s worse is that when asked in an interview with FOX News if he could take back or rephrase any of his remarks, he answered, “No, because [they’re] totally accurate.”

Trump also stated that he also thinks that the

British Prime Minister, David Cameron’s proposal to shut down mosques if a worshipper is linked to ISIS is “great,” even though it happens to be a blatant violation of the constitutional right and the first amendment of freedom religion.

Little research is required to see that Trump’s inflammatory comments are the complete opposite of accurate, but his controversial remarks gain him publicity, which seems to be the backbone of his

**“Trump has a growing history of insulting and belittling women that has gone on for decades.”**

campaign. In addition to Trump’s numerous acts of racism, he has a growing history of insulting and belittling women. Trump stated in an interview with Vanity Fair in 1990 that he “would never buy [his wife] any decent jewels or pictures. “Why give her negotiable assets?” he said.

More recent acts of hostility towards women include him telling a female reporter on “Last Week Tonight” that “The early victories by the women on ‘The Apprentice’ were, to a very large extent, dependent on their sex appeal.” He continued telling the reporter that she “wouldn’t have a job if she weren’t beautiful.” He also claimed via Twitter that Hillary Clinton is a poor Presidential candidate because of her husband’s actions,

stating, “If Hillary Clinton can’t satisfy her husband, what makes her think she can satisfy America?”

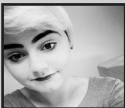
Finally, Donald Trump, as many already know, is a billionaire. He has enough money to, hypothetically, buy himself the election. Trump stated in June that he had \$9 billion to spend on his campaign. He is the son of Fred Trump, a real estate developer, grew up in an extremely wealthy family and has had everything handed to him for his entire life. Because of his extraordinary wealth, he has no genuine leadership experience and no grasp on how mature adults should act, especially if running for President.

Many have described Trump as a toddler in an adult body: he’s egotistical, greedy, and gives the American people a horrible image.

Trump has proven himself time and time again to be completely ignorant, so much so that it’s almost embarrassing. Yet, he’s gained an extremely dedicated following, mainly from the upper class, because of his economic privilege and the success of The Trump Organization. What Trump’s supporters need to realize, though, is that good business alone won’t save the U.S. A good leader should be educated on social and economic issues, and go out of their way to protect every person in their country.

# Mend the Gender Issues

SUICIDE OF TRANSGENDER TEEN  
DEMONSTRATES NEED TO BE ACCEPTING



by  
junior reporter  
Rachel Boone

Leelah Alcorn, a 17-year-old transgender teen, committed suicide on December 28, 2014 due to prejudice from her parents about her gender identity. Her suicide note, which was posted on her Tumblr and since has been taken down at her parents’ request, exposed a lack of acceptance and general abuse towards her identity.

After Leelah came out to her devout Christian parents, they immediately sent her to conversion therapy in an effort to “change her back.” This crushed Alcorn’s spirit and caused her to start thinking suicidal thoughts.

Lellah mentioned her parents’ verbal and emotional abuse in her note, saying “I immediately told my mom, and she reacted extremely negatively, telling me that it was a phase, that I would never truly be a girl, that God doesn’t make mistakes, that I am wrong.” She also mentioned that after her parents refused to consent to her conversion, she started feeling hopeless because she felt that she would never truly be happy and comfortable in her skin. She elaborated these feelings in her note when she stated, “I’m never going to be happy. Either I live the rest of my life as a lonely man who wishes he were a woman or I live my life as a lonelier woman who hates herself.”

Leelah’s suicide note should serve as a wake-up call to parents, friends and peers of young trans people. Trans suicides grow exponentially year by year and they aren’t going to

stop unless people start respecting and supporting gender identity for everyone. A study taken three years ago shows that 41% of transgender or gender-nonconforming people have attempted suicide at some point in their lives, and the number continues to grow.

Nobody should feel ashamed for their gender identity, but it’s become normal in our society to make a mockery of the trans community rather than treating them with respect. Many cisgender people don’t take time to understand people that struggle with gender identity, and instead turn a blind eye and mark them off as “gross” or “confused,” maybe without even realizing it. The truth is, not giving trans people the rights that they deserve only adds to the dilemma. Death rates among trans people aren’t going to decrease until there is room in our society for them to be who they are.

The last lines of Leelah Alcorn’s suicide letter read, “The only way I will rest in peace is if one day transgender people aren’t treated the way I was, they’re treated like humans, with valid feelings and human rights. Gender needs to be taught about in schools, the earlier the better. My death needs to mean something. My death needs to be counted in the number of transgender people who commit suicide this year. I want someone to look at that number and say...fix it.”

Lellah’s plea for equality serves as a voice for many trans people. Complete equality starts with unconditional acceptance and fair treatment for everyone, no matter their identity.

# Review ELVIS DEPRESSEDLY KEEPS TRUE TO THEIR SOUND WHILE ABANDONING THEMES OF DEPRESSION



by  
junior reporter  
Rachel Boone  
★★★★★

Mathew Lee Cothran and Delaney Mills, also known as Elvis Depressedly, are a dreampop duo from Columbia, South Carolina who have gained quite the following over the past few years through their distinctive lo-fi and home-recorded sound. Though their previous albums have been known to explore loneliness and death, they’ve made it clear with “New Alhambra” that they’ve abandoned the underlying themes of depression in their music that they’ve almost inevitably become associated with.

The second track, “N.M.S.S.,” is the first hint at the change of tone on the album. The lyrics “No more sad songs, I will serve no purpose / I love everyone that I have ever known” are an obvious change from songs on previous albums, such as

the 2012 release “Mickey’s Dead,” which is filled with lyrics like “I ain’t ever gonna learn to swim / So when the water rises to my mouth / I’m just gonna breathe right through my smile and be happy to drown.”

Though the subject matter on “New Alhambra” is a contrast from that on previous Elvis Depressedly releases, Cothran and Mills have

stayed true to their sound; Mathew’s traditional shaky, distorted vocals and the textural depth that the band is most known for are both present throughout the album. “New Alhambra” is generally the clearest and most well-produced album in the Depressedly discography, but it still leaves room for the brittle sound that makes the band unique.

Every track on the album is extremely well-put together and they all serve a purpose, rather than just seeming like filler. Highlights on the album include “Bruises (Amethyst),” “Big Break” and “Ease” which are

all all traditionally lo-fi tracks that still manage to stand out from the rest of the album. Cothran’s voice is the most memorable part of songs like “New Heaven, New Earth” and the opening track “Thou Shall Not Murder,” providing warmth and proving that they wouldn’t be the

**“They’ve made it clear that they’ve abandoned the underlying themes of depression that they’ve almost inevitably become associated with.”**

same if sung by anyone else. The album finishes off with “Wastes of Time,” a dreamy acoustic track delivered almost like a promise.

“New Alhambra” is a significant representation of the maturity that Elvis Depressedly has reached over the years. It’s filled with a variety of different emotions and still manages to keep elements of the material that initially attracted the band’s audience. The album is a significant turning point for the band in terms of content, and the conclusive theme that shines throughout the entire album is a change that is good.

# People of Color Deserve More Attention for their Work in the Entertainment Industry



by  
staff reporter  
Rachel Boone

Though mainstream media is becoming arguably more progressive, annual award shows never fail to set us back a few decades. It’s hard to ignore the fact that there’s something off about the extremely small amount of people of color nominated for awards, not to mention the even smaller amount of people of color actually winning those awards.

Whitewashing isn’t a rare occurrence for most award shows. For example, when the 2015 Oscar nominees were released earlier this year, every single actor in the running was white, and out of every movie nominated, only five had non-white directors. This year’s Oscars were the whitest since 1988, proving that racial discrimination, even if internalized, is still a problem

in the media over 3 decades later.

Despite popular releases from many established artists of color such as Nicki Minaj and FKA twigs, every single nominee for Best New Artist and Album of the Year at the 2015 Grammys was white. A total of 31 jazz, Latin-centric, and world music categories were drawn off from the show, though many viewers probably were not aware because those categories were never given screen time to begin with.

Though 2015 hasn’t been an incredible year for representation at award shows, the Emmys showed lots of promise in rewarding some of the people involved in making television more diverse. Actresses of color like Regina King, Uzo Aduba, and Viola Davis all received awards, Davis being the only Black woman ever to win an Emmy for Outstanding Lead Actress in Drama. The show was a powerful example of diversity

in the media being rewarded rather than snubbed, but it also makes many wonder if the rest of Hollywood is ever going to follow in its footsteps.

The media can’t call itself diverse until it stops favoritizing white people and starts awarding people of color who do the same amount of work, if not more. Snubbing people of color and ignoring their effort is an incredibly outdated act of discrimination, and should not persist into the future.

Ideally, the industry would realize its errors and begin to strive towards achieving equal representation, but the only real solution to the lack of diversity at awards shows is simply to give credit where credit is due. Covert acts of racism like whitewashing at awards shows need to be recognized and actively put an end to, or else they will continue to be disregarded and no change will be made whatsoever.