



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wed. Oct. 27, 2021

**MORE THAN 80 WOMEN LEADERS FROM ACROSS CONNECTICUT CALL ON BOBBY VALENTINE
TO APOLOGIZE FOR SEXIST REMARKS**

Stamford, CT - After Bobby Valentine [referred to Caroline Simmons as a “35-year-old-girl”](#) yesterday, he doubled-down today during an appearance on NPR, saying “I don’t see the offense.”

In response, Women leaders from government, the business sector, and nonprofit and community organizations together issued the following statement:

“Mr. Valentine’s language is disgraceful and demeaning to women and girls. It reflects an outdated mindset and attitude towards women and the contribution we make every day in our communities, state, and country. Worse still is Mr. Valentine’s inability to apologize or reflect on his own words, a trait that is unbecoming of a candidate and unacceptable in our elected leaders.

Words matter, particularly when they are spoken by elected leaders or those seeking elected office. We call on Bobby Valentine to unequivocally apologize to Caroline Simmons and to all women and girls in Stamford, and across our state.”

Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz
Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro
Cathy Malloy, former First Lady of Connecticut
Nancy DiNardo, Chair, Connecticut State Democratic Party
Eloisa Melendez, Treasurer, Connecticut Democratic and Norwalk Democratic Town Committee
Chair
Cindy Wolfe Boynton, President of the National Organization of Women, CT Chapter
Mary Bylone, First Selectman of Colchester
Marcia Leclerc, Mayor of East Hartford
Cathy Iino, First Selectman, Killingworth
Shari Cantor, Mayor of West Hartford
Maly Rosado, President, Hartford City Council
Megan Cottrell, Stamford Board of Representatives (District 5)
Annie Summerville, Stamford Board of Representatives (District 6)
Maureen Pollack, Stamford Board of Representatives (District 11)
Susan Nabel, Stamford Board of Representatives (District 20)
Jackie Heftman, Stamford Board of Education Member
Christine Cohen, State Senator (12th District)
Mary Daugherty Abrams, State Senator (13th District)
Cathy Osten, State Senator (19th District)
Julie Kushner, State Senator (24th District)
Eleni Kavros DeGraw, State Representative (17th District)
Jillian Gilchrest, State Representative (18th District)
Tammy Exum, State Representative (19th District)
Kerry Wood, State Representative (29th District)
Christine Goupil, State Representative (35th District)
Christine Palm, State Representative (36th District)
Christine Conley, State Representative (40th District)
Susan Johnson, State Representative (49th District)
Jaime Foster, State Representative (57th District)
Maria Horn, State Representative (64th District)
Michelle Cook, State Representative (65th District)
Cathy Abercrombie, State Representative (83rd District)
Hilda Santiago, State Representative (84th District)
Mary Mushinsky, State Representative (85th District)
Toni Walker, State Representative (93rd District)
Robyn Porter, State Representative (94th District)
Robin Comey, State Representative (102nd District)

Liz Linehan, State Representative (103rd District)
Kara Rochelle, State Representative (104th House District)
Aimee Berger-Girvalo, State Representative (111th District)
Dorinda Borer, State Representative (115th District)
Jennifer Leper, State Representative (132nd District)
Cristin McCarthy Vahey, State Representative (133rd District)
Lucy Dathan, State Representative (142nd District)
Stephanie Thomas, State Representative (143rd District)
Melissa Kane, Westport Selectwoman
Beth Kerrigan, West Hartford Councilwoman
Kaitlyn Shake, Stratford Councilwoman
Eva Padilla, Stamford Democratic City Committee Member
Susana Vidan, Stamford Democratic City Committee Member
Reischea Kapasouris,
Stamford Democratic City Committee Member
Lauren Jacobson, Stamford Democratic City Committee Member
Robin Druckman, Stamford Democratic City Committee Member
Wendy Skratt, Stamford Democratic City Committee Member
Eneida Lewis, Stamford Democratic City Committee Member
Roz Nesin, Stamford Democratic City Committee
Maddy Shapiro, Stamford Democratic City Committee, (Alternate)
Mara Siladi, Stamford Democratic City Committee (Alternate)
Jackie Kaiko, Stamford Democratic City Committee (Alternate)
Vanita Bhalla, Connecticut Democratic State Central Committee Member
Lauren Meyer, Connecticut Democratic State Central Committee Member
Jennifer Pope, Connecticut Democratic State Central Committee Member
Lisa Thomas, Connecticut Democratic State Central Committee Member
Ashley Ley Candidate for Board of Representatives (District 20)
Lauren Garrett, Candidate for Mayor of Hamden
Michelle Abt, Indivisible Stamford
Sharyn Sarner, Indivisible Stamford
Brook Manewal, Stamford Women's Talking Circle
Shira Tarantino, PinkWave Stamford
Sharlene Kerelejza, Women's March Connecticut Organizer
Evonne Klein, Former Commissioner of Housing
Jacquelin A. Kozin, Executive Director of the Connecticut Democratic Party
Fran Pastore
Kayla Reasco, Co-chair, Connecticut Democrats Women's Caucus

Betsy Ritter, Former Commissioner on Aging and State Representative
Katie Kenney, Canton Democratic Town Committee Chair
Michelle Gilman, Colchester Democratic Town Committee Chair
Dr. Mary L. Murphy, East Haddam Democratic Town Committee Chair
Tara Hunt Melvin, Guilford Democratic Town Committee Chair
Patricia Paniccia, Monroe Democratic Town Committee Chair
Lisa Hannich, New Canaan Democratic Town Committee Chair
Mary Jane Lundgren, New Milford Democratic Town Committee Chair
Christine Guinquito, Old Lyme Democratic Town Committee Chair
Jody Dietch, Orange Democratic Town Committee Chair & Executive Director, Congregation Beth
El Norwalk
Erin R. King, Plymouth Democratic Town Committee Chair
Lori P. Fernand, Simsbury Democratic Town Committee Chair
Polly Moon, Wethersfield Democratic Town Committee Chair
Meaghan Kehogreen, Teacher and Colchester Democratic Town Committee Vice Chair
Alyssa MacKenzie, New Canaan Democratic Town Committee Vice Chair