



**CALIFORNIA STATE  
CONFERENCE OF THE  
N A A C P**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**California NAACP Calls on Congressional Representatives In Both Parties To Denounce Rep. Sanchez  
Islamophobic Remarks**

*Yesterday Sanchez Defended Her Claims About Muslims, Dismissed Constituents Who Objected To Her  
Dangerous Rhetoric*

*NAACP Pres. Huffman: "When a politician chooses to dismiss their critics and continue perpetuating hateful  
and dangerous political speech, it's up to the rest of our political leadership to strongly condemn that  
rhetoric."*

Today, one day after Loretta Sanchez, defended her claim Trump-like that up to 20% of Muslims around the world want a caliphate and would support terrorism to get it, the California NAACP President Alice A. Huffman called on California Congressional representatives in both parties to denounce Sanchez' Islamophobic remarks.

"Congresswoman Sanchez refusal to apologize for her patently false and Islamophobic statement is incredibly troubling," said President Huffman. "As our organization has said before, when leaders in either party spew hateful rhetoric, we must call them out. When a politician chooses to dismiss their critics and continue perpetuating hateful and dangerous political speech, it's up to the rest of our political leadership to strongly condemn their rhetoric. Congresswoman Sanchez' Congressional colleagues should stand up and denounce her divisive claims."

Last week, Sanchez remarked, "We know that there is a small group, and we don't know how big that is - it can be anywhere from 5 – 20%, from the people that I speak to – that Islam is religion and who have a desire for a caliphate and to institute that in any way possible, and in particular go after what they consider Western norms — our way of life," during an interview on PoliticKING with Larry King.

Yesterday, instead of apologizing for her remarks at a press conference, Sanchez defended her statement. Sanchez [even dismissed criticism](#) of her remarks from numerous organizations in California and across the country, characterizing the calls to condemn her remarks as "rants."

California is the most diverse state in the nation with more than 388,000 Muslims alone. We call on all Members of Congress and candidates for Congress to condemn these remarks.

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*Founded in 1909, the NAACP - the nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization. It's more than half-million members and supporters throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, conducting voter mobilization and monitoring equal opportunity in the public and private sectors.*