

PARENTS TALK BACK

New college activism

Editor's note: There are offensive lyrics in the second paragraph that some readers may find objectionable



AISHA SULTAN
Parents Talk Back

A best-selling African-American writer and speaker stood in front of nearly a thousand St. Louis University students and broke into song.

“There will never be a n*gg*r in SAE. There will never be a n*gg*r in SAE. You can hang him from a tree, but he can never sign with me. There will never be a n*gg*r in SAE,” Lawrence Ross sang.

The audience of mostly white students looked uncomfortable.

Ross acknowledged that he opened his talk with that racial slur because he didn’t want to shield students from the ugliness of the word. He sang the same lyrics that Sigma Alpha Epsilon members from the University of Oklahoma were caught on video singing last year. The university later shut down the chapter.

Ross also showed slide after slide of other racist acts that have surfaced since the SAE incident — white students in blackface, others dressed in white hoods and still others wearing Obama masks with nooses.

The SLU fraternity and sorority leadership invited Ross, author of “Blackballed: The Black and White Politics of Race on America’s Campuses,” to tell their members about the racist legacy of America, its colleges and their own Greek organizations. He gave them a 90-minute history lesson, current events briefing and encouragement about the ways they can improve their campus in their own spheres.

The way young people look at the world — and their role in making it a better place — recently has been shook, as my teenage daughter would say. College students are talking about race in a way that hasn’t been heard in decades.

After the protests of the Civil Rights movement, the biggest fights for equal treatment and access happened through the courts, not on college campuses. Now, a new generation has found its political voice and muscle. For example, since Ferguson, there have been widespread protests on campuses — more than 100 of them. Ross showed the students the multicultural alliances that cut across racial groups and stand against bigotry.

Ross’ mission goes beyond shining a light on problems that have been festering for years. He has a more ambitious goal: Get those who are oblivious to racism to see where it exists — even on their sheltered and protective campuses — and to recognize how they’ve personally benefited from institutions predicated on giving whites privilege above everyone else.

What makes this endeavor particularly difficult is that everyone wants to believe what they’ve achieved comes from their own talents or hard work. The backlash to challenging this idea can be rage. “The things I

have are mine! Stop being a victim!” is a common response, Ross said.

In an online review of Ross’ book, a white professor said that the “us versus them” debates framed around affirmative action hurt race relations. Getting students to recognize their own advantages is always a struggle. For example, if he asked white students how they got their first job, he wrote, some may have had a parent or relative who helped get them a foot in the door — an internship, a entry-level job or even an interview.

“In other words, through no skill of their own, someone acted ‘affirmatively’ to give that person a leg up,” wrote the reviewer. “But many white students don’t see it that way. They see that sort of advantage as a birthright and not the advantage of nepotism or connection.”

Additionally, most Americans are generally great at personal interactions with friends of different backgrounds, Ross said. We like to believe that our friendships with a diverse group of people proves our lack of racism. But our understanding of institutional racism, its historical origins and lasting impacts, is weak, Ross said. He points out that 98 percent of FHA loans were given to white people from the 1930s to the ‘60s, creating a white middle class and all the advantages that arose from that. He shares the data about educational segregation that still exists, and the connection between race and educational opportunities.

Ross spoke to the students at SLU, a private Catholic university, as an insider: He is a Catholic, educated by Jesuits, and values the bonds he made at his own fraternity in college. He believes in students’ power to make the world better.

They responded to his message as powerfully as he delivered it. They asked questions about how to reconcile political differences, how to increase diversity in their own organizations and how to support their classmates.

Ross’ work with college students is more than an academic pursuit for him. His own son will be leaving for college next year.

“I don’t bombard him with a whole bunch of things about white supremacy,” Ross said with a laugh, in an interview. He suspects his son will go to college and will try to make sense of the world and find his own way of responding.

Chances are good he will find a community struggling with the same questions and galvanized to find better answers.

He encouraged the students at the SLU gathering not to be afraid to try.

They may stumble along the way, but so hopeful is their march.

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Aisha Sultan is a St. Louis-based journalist who studies parenting in the digital age while trying to keep up with her tech-savvy children. Find her on Twitter: @AishaS.

Trump offers Flynn national security adviser job

NEW YORK (AP) — President-elect Donald Trump offered former military intelligence chief Michael Flynn the job of national security adviser as he began to build out his national security team Thursday, according to a senior Trump official. The move came as Trump made his most direct foray into foreign policy since the election, meeting with Japan’s prime minister.

Flynn, who served as the director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, has advised Trump on national security issues for months. As national security adviser, he would work in the White House and have frequent access to the president. The post does not require Senate confirmation.

The official wouldn’t say whether Flynn had accepted the job, which left open the possibility that the arrange-

ment was not finalized. The official was not authorized to discuss the offer publicly and insisted on anonymity.

Flynn, 57, built a reputation in the Army as an astute intelligence professional and a straight talker. He retired in 2014 and has been a fierce critic of President Barack Obama’s White House and Pentagon, taking issue with the administration’s approach to global affairs and Islamic State militants.

Trump is a foreign policy novice and his early moves on national security are being closely watched by U.S. allies and adversaries alike. He’s said to be considering a range of officials with varying degrees of experience to lead the State Department and Pentagon.

The president-elect held his first face-to-face meeting with a world leader since winning the presidential election, huddling privately

with Japan’s Shinzo Abe. While Trump made no comments following the meeting, Abe said the president-elect was “a leader in whom I can have great confidence.”

Trump also consulted with former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and sat down with South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, a potential contender to lead the State Department.

In Washington, Vice President-elect Mike Pence huddled with Republican leaders in Congress. He then met with House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Sen. Chuck Schumer, the newly elected leader of the Senate Democrats, seeking to convey respect as Democrats prepare for Republican rule of both chambers and the White House for the first time in a decade.

“We look forward to finding ways that we can

find common ground and move the country forward,” Pence said outside Schumer’s Senate office.

In a separate gesture of reconciliation with establishment Republicans, Trump planned to meet with 2012 Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney, who lambasted Trump as a “con man” and a “fraud” in a stinging speech last March. Trump responded by repeatedly referring to Romney as a “loser.”

The two began mending fences after Trump’s victory when Romney called with congratulations. They are to meet this weekend, a transition official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he wasn’t authorized to discuss Trump’s schedule publicly. Campaign manager Kellyanne Conway said they were still “working on” the meeting.

Friday Morning

	STATION		6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
FOX	(11) KFFX	11	AgDay	Hot/ Cleve.	Good Day Spokane				Paid	Into Wild	Steve Harvey		Crime Watch Daily	
	KPTV	3	Good Day Oregon at 6		Good Day Oregon				Good Day		The 700 Club		Rachael Ray (N)	
CBS	(19) KEPR	2	News	News	CBS This Morning (N)				Harry (N)		The Price Is Right		Young & Restless	
	KOIN	19	KOIN 6 News at 6 a.m.		CBS This Morning (N)				Let's Make a Deal		The Price Is Right		Young & Restless	
NBC	(25) KNDU	6	Wake Up Northwest		Today Show (N)				Today Show II (N)		Today Show III (N)		Million?	Million?
	KGW	8	KGW News at Sunrise		Today Show (N)				Today Show II (N)		Today Show III (N)		Portland Today	
ABC	(42) KVEW	4	Northwest	Northwest	Good Morning America (N)				Live! With Kelly (N)		The View		Paid	Middle
	KATU	5	KATU News Morning		Good Morning America (N)				AM Northwest		The View		Live! With Kelly (N)	
PBS	(31) KTNW		Stretch	W.L.Yoga	Wild Kratts	Jet Go!	Nature Cat	C.George	D.Tiger	D.Tiger	Sesame St. Peg + Cat		DinoTrain	Sit and Fit
	(59) OPB	13	Stretch	Jet Go!	Nature Cat	C.George	D.Tiger	D.Tiger	Sesame St. Peg + Cat		DinoTrain	DinoTrain	SuperW!	Thomas

AFTERNOON

	STATION		12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
FOX	(11) KFFX	11	Paid	Pat. Court	Divorce	Divorce	Judge Mathis		The People's Court		2½Men	Mike&M.	Last Man	Last Man
	KPTV	3	12 O'Clock News		E. Stanton	Teen News	OutSpace		Y. Icons	Am Athlete	Missing	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	5 O'Clock News
CBS	(19) KEPR	2	NameG.	Bold & B.	The Talk (N)		Let's Make a Deal		Dr. Phil		Judge Judy		Judge Judy	News
	KOIN	19	News	Bold & B.	The Talk (N)		The Doctors (N)		Dr. Phil		KOIN 6 News at 4 p.m.		News	News
NBC	(25) KNDU	6	TMZ	Paid	Days of Our Lives		Hot Bench		Hot Bench		Wendy Williams		Ellen DeGeneres (N)	
	KGW	8	KGW New	Paid	Days of Our Lives		T.D. Jakes (N)		Ellen DeGeneres (N)		KGW News		KGW News	
ABC	(42) KVEW	4	The Chew (N)		General Hospital		The Doctors (N)		Rachael Ray (N)		Minute	Minute	News	News
	KATU	5	The Chew (N)		General Hospital		Harry (N)		Afternoon Live		KATU News @ 4		News	News
PBS	(31) KTNW		Charlie Rose		Ming (N)	Quilt Day	Stretch	Thomas	Arthur	Nature Cat	Jet Go!	Odd Squad	Wild Kratts	Business
	(59) OPB	13	Paint This	Mexican	Charlie Rose		Nature Cat	Bob Build	Cat/ Hat	Jet Go!	Speaks	WordGirl	Odd Squad	Wild Kratts

EVENING

	STATION		6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
FOX	(11) KFFX	11	Modern Family "Bringing Up Baby"		Modern Family "Schooled"		2 Broke G. "And the Really Petty Cash"		Seahawks All Access		Kitchen The chefs prepare a special menu for the International Ballroom Invitational.		Exorcist Marcus, Tomas and Mother Bernadette race against time to defeat the demon. (N)	
	KPTV	3	6 O'Clock News		Family Feud		Family Feud		Kitchen "Dancing With the Chefs" (N)		The Exorcist (N)		10 O'Clock News	
CBS	(19) KEPR	2	Action News at 6 p.m.		Inside Edition		The Big Bang Theory		The Simpsons "The Burns Cage"		MacGyver With only a chisel and a matchbook, MacGyver must fend off extremist in Latvia. (N)		Hawaii Five-0 Five-0 investigates one of history's most notorious unsolved mysteries. (N)	
	KOIN	19	KOIN 6 News at 6		Evening News		Extra		Ent. Tonight		MacGyver "Chisel" (N)		Hawaii Five-0 "Elua La Ma Nowemapa" (N)	
NBC	(25) KNDU	6	Local News		Family Feud		Wheel of Fortune		Jeopardy!		Camera Nick checks out the hottest viral videos to determine if they are real or fake. (N)		Dateline NBC The news magazine presents investigative features and breaking news coverage.	
	KGW	8	KGW News at 6:00 p.m.		Live at Seven		Inside Edition		Caught on Camera "Real or Fake" (N)		Dateline NBC The news magazine presents investigative features & breaking news coverage.		BlueB. Frank contends with a priest who won't break the seal of confession to help with a case.	
ABC	(42) KVEW	4	Extra		Local News at 6:30		Entertainment Tonight		The Insider		Last Man St. "My Father the Car" (N)		Dr. Ken (N)	
	KATU	5	KATU News at 6		Jeopardy!		Wheel of Fortune		Last Man St. (N)		Dr. Ken (N)		Shark Tank (N)	
PBS	(31) KTNW		PBS NewsHour		BBC World News		Legacies-/Perfection		Washington Week (N)		Charlie Rose (N)		Alan Cumming Sings Sappy Songs (N)	
	(59) OPB	13	Travelscope		Business (N)		PBS NewsHour		Washington Week (N)		BBC Newsnight		Hinterland "Devil's Bridge" 2/2	
STATION	PEN	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	
A&E	52	The First 48 "Shattered Glass"		The First 48 "1000 Cuts/ Draw"		48: Extreme Kills "In a Lonely Place" (N)		Live PD (N)				The First 48 "Dark Waters"		
AMC	60	*** The Matrix Revolutions		*** Lethal Weapon		An unstable police officer is partnered with a veteran detective to battle drug dealers.		*** Lethal Weapon 2		Detectives Riggs and Murtaugh pursue South African diplomats who are smuggling drugs.				
ANPL	24	Tanked!		Tanked: Sea-lebrity		"Stand-up Stars" (N)		Tanked: Unfiltered (N)		Tanked! (N)		Tanked! "Shaq-Sized"		
CMT	43	*** Overboard ('87, Com)		Goldie Hawn.		Broken Skull Challen		Broken Skull Challen		Roseanne		Roseanne		
CNBC	72	Boss "Taylormade"		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Boss "Mood Media"		The Profit in Cuba		Paid		
CNN	68	Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		
DISC	51	Gold Rush		Gold Rush "Mutiny"		Gold Rush: Pay Dirt (N)		Gold Rush (N)		Treasure Quest (N)		Gold Rush		
DISN	26	Liv Maddie		Underc.		StuckMid		Liv Mad		Girl M. (N)		The Lodge		
ESPN	33	NBA Basketball Golden State Warriors at Boston Celtics (L)		NBA Basketball Los Angeles Clippers at Sacramento Kings Site: Golden 1 Center -- Sacramento, Calif. (L)		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		J & J (N)		30/30 "The Best That Never Was"		
ESPN2	34	NCAA Football UNLV at Boise State Site: Albertsons Stadium (L)		SportsCenter		J & J (N)		30/30 "The Best That Never Was"						
FNC	66	The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		On the Record		
FOOD	61	Diners		Diners		Diners		Diners, Drive-Ins		Diners (N)		Diners		
FREE	32	*** Harry Potter & the...		*** Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets		Harry Potter returns to find the school plagued by mysterious attacks.						The 700 Club		
FX	65	*** Captain Phillips		Tom Hanks.		*** Avatar		A marine is torn between following orders or protecting a planet he feels is his home.						
GOLF	68	APGA Golf Australian Open Round 3 Site: Royal Sydney Golf Club -- Sydney, Australia (L)		PGA Golf The RSM Classic										
GSN	76	Fam. Feud		Fam. Feud		Fam. Feud		Fam. Feud		Fam. Feud		Fam. Feud		
HALL	87	A Christmas Melody (2015, Drama)		A Perfect Christmas		Susie Abromoit.		Every Christmas Has a Story		Lori Loughlin.				
HGTV	62	Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Renovation		Renovation		H.Hunt (N)		House (N)		
HIST	50	Doomsday "Gamma Ray Burst"		Doomsday "Rogue Planet"		Ancient Aliens "The Anunnaki Connection"		Ancient Aliens "Beyond Roswell"		Doomsday "Alien Invasion" (N)		:05 Aliens "Aliens, Gods and Heroes"		
LIFE	29	*** Date Night ('10, Com)		Tina Fey.		*** Step Brothers ('08, Com)		Will Ferrell.		*** Big Daddy ('99, Com)		Adam Sandler.		
NICK	27	H.Danger		H.Danger		Paradise		The Thundermans		H.Danger		Full House		
ROOT	37	NCAA Basketball Bryant University at Gonzaga (L)		NCAA Basketball Eastern Washington vs. Portland State (L)						Full House		Full House		
SPIKE	42	*** The Longest Yard		Adam Sandler.		*** The Waterboy		A waterboy becomes a football sensation when a coach discovers his talent.		*** Joe Dirt 2: Beautiful Loser		David Spade. A family man is transported to the past and finds himself on a journey.		
SYFY	67	*** Blade		Annabelle ('14, Hor)		Annabelle Wallis.		Z Nation (N)		Van Helsing (N)		Z Nation		
TBS	59	Seinf. "The Cartoon"		Seinf. "The Strongbox"		ELeague "Group D Play: CS:GO" (L)		2 Broke Girls		Big Bang Theory		Big Bang Theory		
TCM	56	*** Splendor in the Grass		:15 *** West Side Story ('61, Mus)		Natalie Wood. Two star-crossed lovers attempt to live outside the violence of their rivaling gangs.		*** Love With the Proper Stranger		A woman seeking solace has a one night stand with a jazz musician.				
TLC	49	Yes Dress		Yes Dress		Haunt "Shape of Evil"		A Haunting (N)		A Haunting (N)		Kindred Spirits (N)		
TNT	57	Bones		Bones		*** Divergent ('14, Act)		Kate Winslet, Miles Teller, Shailene Woodley.		*** Limitless				
UNI	21	Includo		Noticiero		Sal y pimienta		Despertar contigo		Vino el amor		El color de la pasion		
USA	58	Law&O: SVU "Behave"		Modern		Modern		Modern		Modern		Modern		
WE	118	Boot Camp: Reali (N)		Marriage Boot Camp		My Life Is a Tel (N)		Marriage Boot Camp		Marriage Boot Camp		Marriage Boot Camp		
WGN		The Perfect Storm		*** The Perfect Storm ('00, Act)		Mark Wahlberg, George Clooney.		Mother		Mother		Rules		
STZ ENC	644	You Don't Mess ...		:10 *** 28 Days ('00, Dra)		Sandra Bullock.		*** Kindergarten Cop		:55 *** Wild Hogs				
HBO	518	:15 MyFight		:45 Kovalev		Fight		Vice News		Making of :15 Ride Along 2		Ice Cube.		
HBO2	520	:10 *** Deadpool		Ryan Reynolds.		Westworld		The Divergent Series: Allegiant		*** Cop Car				
HBO3	521	Movie		:40 *** Blackhat ('14, Act)		Viola Davis, Chris Hemsworth.		*** The Revenant ('15, Dra)		Leonardo DiCaprio.		:45 Making		
MAX	549	:05 *** Fool's Gold		Matthew McConaughey.		*** Le Divorce ('03, Rom)		Kate Hudson.		*** Fifty Shades of Grey		Dakota Johnson.		
SHOW	578	Movie		*** Zoolander		Ben Stiller.		*** American Wedding		:35 *** Sleeping With Other People		Alison Brie.		
STARZ	621	:05 *** The Game Plan		Dwayne Johnson.		*** Ant-Man ('15, Act)		Paul Rudd.		Ash/Evil		Blunt Talk		