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Rally/Press Conf. Monday to Defeat Kavanaugh's Nomination & Defend Democracy: We Believe Christine Ford! Trump Must Resign or be Removed!

Kate Stenvig <kstenvig@umich.edu> Sun, Sep 23, 2018 at 9:20 PM
To: BAMN Info List <bamn-list@umich.edu>

BAMN Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action, Integration and Immigrant Rights and Fight for Equality By Any Means Necessary

We Believe Christine Blasey Ford:
Kavanaugh's nomination must be defeated to defend democracy and to defend women's rights

Join BAMN Tomorrow Monday, Sept, 24 @ 5:00pm for a Press Conference & Rally as part of the National Day of Action to Protest the Nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court

We will have our weekly BAMN Meeting after the rally at 7pm in the basement of Espresso Royale on S. University

If Brett Kavanaugh is confirmed, the Mueller investigation is dead and the fight for women's rights will be in real danger. Trump, the Abuser-of-women-in-chief must resign or be removed.

Millions of Americans and defenders of democracy across the globe owe our thanks to Dr. Christine Blasey Ford for her courage to come forward with the truth of Brett Kavanaugh's heinous sexual assault. We believe her and stand by her and her request for an investigation. Dr. Ford's brave stand has put the prospect of defeating Kavanaugh's nomination within reach. The Resistance to Trump must mobilize now to defend democracy now — with all its strength, through mass direct action.

Trump's nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court presents a dangerous and decisive turning point in Trump's attacks on democracy. Kavanaugh is someone whom Trump knows he can count on to sustain any action he takes to shut down the Mueller investigation.

Of all the possible candidates vetted by Trump for the Supreme Court nomination, only Kavanaugh has written a public defense of exactly the kind of presidential power and immunity from investigation that Trump wants the court to give him. Kavanaugh has been consistent for many years in arguing that a sitting President is above the law. In a *Minnesota Law Review* article, Kavanaugh argues that a crisis situation calls for an autocratic President who does not have to worry himself about legality because *"the burdens of a criminal investigation— including preparing for questioning by criminal investigators— are time-consuming and distracting. Like civil suits, criminal investigations take the President's focus away from his or her responsibilities to the people. And a President who is concerned about an ongoing criminal investigation is almost inevitably going to do a worse job as President."*

Trump has already been prepared to use the claim of "national security" to provide legal cover to the most cruel of his attacks on immigrants - the Muslim travel ban, and the 'zero tolerance' policy of tearing children from their families, imprisoning them in cages and denying their *legal* right to seek asylum - and also as the ostensible legal basis for his entire trade war against the rest of the world. If Trump is able to achieve the confirmation of Kavanaugh, he will have taken over the third branch of government and also guaranteed his ability to also shut down the Mueller investigation, sabotaging the road to impeachment and getting away with the beginning of the murder of American democracy.

Now with the coming to light of Kavanaugh's attempted rape of Dr. Ford, his nomination presents a test of the #metoo movement that has come forward against Trump's misogyny, his promotion and defense of sexual assault that has been central to his political platform.

As long as Donald Trump, as Abuser-in-Chief, remains in office, misogynous men like Kavanaugh will feel they have a green-light to attack, harass, objectify and abuse women. By defeating the nomination of Kavanaugh we will be dealing a blow to Trump's attacks on democracy and his movement of reactionary supporters who have been emboldened to carry out misogynist, immigrant-bashing, and racist attacks.

Now more than ever, as our nation stands at a crossroads, the Resistance movement must rise to our historic challenge. This is no time for "business as usual" or to rely on the promises and maneuvers of cynical politicians. BAMN calls on all anti-Trump and pro-democracy Resistance, to join us in action to defeat the nomination of Justice Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court, and to force Trump to resign or be removed. The future of freedom and democracy is in our hands.

Kavanaugh Rally Sept 24 poster.pdf
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