



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 16, 2016

## **NOW NY Demands Local Republicans Take a Stand: Do You Support Trump or Women?**

### *NOW Calls on New York Candidates to Reject Donald Trump and His Misogyny*

New York, NY - Two weeks after organizing a [protest](#) across from the Trump International Hotel to repudiate Donald Trump for diminishing the seriousness of sexual assault and for his long record of woman-hating rhetoric, NOW New York is calling on Republican candidates across the state to unequivocally reject Trump.

In the last two weeks the public has seen leaked footage of Trump [bragging](#) about sexual assault, heard Miss Teen USA pageant contestants [describe](#) how [Trump](#) entered their dressing room while they were changing, and learned the stories of [several women](#) who were aggressively groped or kissed by Trump against their will and without consent.

NOW New York President Sonia Ossorio says, "It's long overdue that we call out those Republican lawmakers and candidates who are still with Donald Trump. With his litany of hateful rhetoric against women, Mexican people, immigrants, Muslims and others, the G.O.P. should have dumped Trump long ago."

NOW New York is asking why these Republicans have failed to reject Trump:

[Congressman Lee Zeldin](#), 1st Congressional District, Suffolk County

[State Senator Jack Martins](#), candidate for 3rd Congressional District, Suffolk County

[Ms. Elaine Phillips](#), candidate for 7th State Senate District, Nassau County

[State Senator Terrence Murphy](#), 40th State Senate District, Westchester/Putnam/Dutchess

[Mr. Christopher Jacobs](#), candidate for 60th State Senate District

**Statement of Sonia Ossorio, President, NOW New York**

The pressure is on for Republicans, because women are watching. Sexual assault and sexual harassment are issues that cross the political divide, and women want to know that their representatives will draw a line against the normalized sexual violence and virulent disrespect for women that Trump promotes.

Criticizing Trump's words or actions, while maintaining tacit support for his candidacy, is hypocritical. Trump's record and rhetoric are so vile, so sexist, and so far below any level of civility or decency that anything less than clear opposition translates into support for the sexism and intolerance that Trump represents.

Women and activists have been fighting to end violence against women for decades, but having a candidate for the highest office brag about sexual assault puts this issue on the national stage in an entirely new light. Not one woman can push this story aside. Women are feeling liberated from the silence, shame and stigma of sexual assault. Women are galvanized, we are energized, and we are going speak out with our voices, and most importantly, our votes.

*For further inquiries, contact Jean Bucaria, [jean@nownyc.org](mailto:jean@nownyc.org), (212) 627-9895  
(917) 657-6736*

*The National Organization for Women is the nation's largest organization working to advance women's rights and improve women's lives. NOW New York aims to advance reproductive justice, secure workplace equality, combat racism and homophobia, and end discrimination and violence against all women.*

###