

To whomever reads this email:

While I understand the situation surrounding the controversial remarks made by the CEO of Chick-fil-A, I do not understand the need to make a gigantic deal about it such as happening at our university as well as other universities around the nation. His remarks were out of line, and unquestionably horrible to the rights of every man and woman in the United States. However, did everyone forget the core principle of our great nation?

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press..." - Constitution, Amendment 1. Dan Cathy, through his statements on homosexuality, was exercising his right as a citizen of the United States to take a stand on a current political issue. His stance is centered around his devout faith to Christianity and its teachings against homosexuality. By creating a deal about his statements and potentially hurting the business that he had started based on the Protestant Work ethic that initially created this nation, Wake Forest University and other universities around the nation are effectively communicating to their students that one groups' speech and religious views are superior to another.

I am stating this as a person with very strong pro-gay rights and gay marriage views. This past summer, I was lucky enough to see my aunt happily marry the woman of her dreams. I would hate to see her or her wife disrespected by someone's opinion of them. However, Mr. Cathy's remarks were just one person's opinion on this matter. I was unable to come to the forum for this topic, but I will be thoroughly outraged with Wake Forest University if the decision is reached to remove Chick-fil-A solely based on Mr. Cathy's statements.

His statements were idiotic and stupid, but they were made by a free citizen of the United States and he has every right to make those statements. We should not punish a business that has proven time and again that it will give people what it wants - quality food for a good price. Especially, they are currently the healthiest fast-food chicken restaurant around. If you are to replace Chick-fil-A with a similar eatery, the health of campus is jeopardized.

I hope to hear back from whoever may be in charge of this decision. One person's political and religious statements are no less significant than any other person.

Sincerely yours,

Jon Anderson
Finance, Class of 2014
Wake Forest University