

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Coalition Against Robinson's Extremism (CARE)

DATE: March 25th, 2024

SUBJECT: Black North Carolinians Reject Robinson's Rhetoric and Platform

Since spring 2023, the Coalition Against Robinson's Extremism (CARE) has been working to educate North Carolinians on Lieutenant Governor Mark Robinson's far-right positions. CARE is a coalition of over 20 diverse, issue-based, and constituency organizations from around the state.

CARE conducted several rounds of public opinion research to understand Black people's concerns about Robinson's leadership. The topline from our research shows, the more Black North Carolinians know about the real Mark Robinson, the more they reject his leadership.

North Carolina consists of one hundred diverse counties, with Black folks represented throughout the state. There is a rich history of Black organizing in places such as Warren and Halifax counties. The largest city, Charlotte, is the third fastest-growing city in the nation, and the Black community continues to grow proportionately with the city's expansion.

"To lead in North Carolina you must understand the needs and values of our diverse Black population," said Doug Wilson, longtime in-state political strategist and founder and principal of Alexander Wilson Consulting. "Black North Carolinians will not be confused about Lt. Governor Mark Robinson's hateful views about the Black community and his disrespect of the sacrifices of the civil rights movement."

The more Black North Carolinians know about the real Mark Robinson, the more they reject him. In our November poll, 55% of Black people could identify Robinson. Of those, only 12% were favorable and almost four times as many (43%) were unfavorable towards him.

For those unfamiliar with Robinson, they quickly move against him when informed about his troubling policy positions and offensive statements. Robinson's support for a total abortion ban, his Holocaust denialism, and his anti-Black rhetoric are all potential deal breakers for Black North Carolinians.

- 71% of Black North Carolinians said they were very concerned (86% total concerned) about Robinson's <u>statement</u> that "If I had all the power right now, let's say I was the governor, we could pass a bill saying you can't have an abortion in North Carolina for any reason."
- 69% of Black North Carolinians said they were very concerned (90% totally concerned) about Robinson's <u>statement</u> that "This foolishness about Hitler disarming MILLIONS of Jews and then marching them off to concentration camps is a bunch of hogwash."

- 66% of Black North Carolinians said they were very concerned (85% total concerned) about Robinson's <u>statement</u> that "Nobody owes you anything for slavery. If you want to tell the truth about it, it is YOU who owes. You who owes."
- 65% of Black North Carolinians said they were very concerned (79% total concerned) about Robinson's statement that "African Americans love to kill each other and have no problem embracing deviant, hypersexual behavior."

After hearing a wide range of information about Robinson, Black people clearly noted their top reasons for opposing his candidacy:

- His numerous, derogatory comments about women, LGBTQ people, Black people, and Jewish people show that he would not be a Governor for all. (60% of Black North Carolinians said this was in their top two reasons).
- He would push for a total ban on abortion even when a woman is raped, the victim of incest, or may lose her life. (53% of Black North Carolinians said this was in their top two reasons).

"Mark Robinson, fueled and funded by conservative extremists, has waged war against the Black community," said Marcus Bass, Executive Director of Advance Carolina. "He is responsible for championing some of the most regressive rhetoric and harmful legislation in recent history. And he has prioritized gaslighting and dog whistling over addressing the real concerns of our communities. Black North Carolinians and people of faith will not be confused by the real Mark Robinson."

<u>The Coalition Against Robinson's Extremism (CARE)</u> stands together to counter Mark Robinson's message of hate and violence. We are a group of organizations that represent average North Carolinians from the mountains to the sea, in small towns and rural areas, and across Black, Brown, Indigenous, and white communities. We are here to say: Mark Robinson's leadership is wrong for North Carolina.

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