



Joy Karega

3 hrs ·

I know the news is coming in. Trust me, this is not a surprise. I've been dealing with the persecution, incompetent leadership, and discrimination from Oberlin College since March. No surprise here.

I will be issuing an official statement soon. I could easily release a "Kiss My Ass" statement. I would be MORE than justified in doing so. But that is not my style. I choose my weapons CAREFULLY and STRATEGICALLY. And trust, I have done that. There will be a challenge and defense of my rights, using ALL the avenues I have available to me -- litigation, public, etc. The pathway for that has already been laid.

Understand this: I gave the College more than enough opportunities to take a step back, turn around, and do the right thing. And the College has chosen not to do so. And that's unfortunate. But as I have said the last few weeks: So Be It.

What's really messed up is that several of the people in governing and administrative positions who have had a strong hand in making this decision won't be at Oberlin to deal with the consequences of this decision. That should anger some folks.

To my faculty colleagues who had a hand in this decision and to my faculty colleagues who have sat back and done NOTHING: When this precedent that is being set extends beyond mere harm to faculty of color, you will have NO right to complain or say anything. You had a chance, and you either fought for my dismissal or sat silent, watching as the College discriminated against me and applied arbitrary and biased standards to me in ways that many of you KNOW were wrong and unfair.

To my Africana faculty and other faculty allies who have supported me throughout: THANK YOU. I love you. 😊

For my Africana faculty, I'm sorry that it had to come to this. I'm sorry that now you all will be placed at the center of the litigation that is coming. I never wanted that. But the College has left me no choice.

To Oberlin students: I love y'all. And you all know why. Thank you for doing what the governing bodies, administration, and some faculty refused to do. Most of you approached this controversy employing fairness, respect for me as a faculty member, and a desire for critical and productive inquiry and engagement. Thank you.

To ALL my supporters, I will receive your messages here as I have been doing throughout. I continue to be grateful. 😊 Thank you for not falling for the okie doke. Oberlin College thinks it exists in a bubble. But it doesn't. And I am more than grateful that so many folks have supported me and maintained a critical eye and sense of discernment.

To those who have been messaging me here with requests for speaking engagements and lectures, I will be in touch soon. You all know I had to make a decision to decline until the institutional process was over. It's over now. And now I have PLENTY to say. Give me a little bit to get things in order and I will be contacting you soon.

I know my value and I know my worth -- professionally and personally. I'm good. 😊 I refused to be treated egregiously, refused to accept discrimination, and refused to be reduced to second-class citizenship. I stand by that decision. And I will aggressively challenge what this College has done to me and defend my rights.

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