

Model of Respect: *Dallin H. Oaks*

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ARIZONA REPUBLICANS WHO BELIEVE IN TREATING OTHERS WITH RESPECT

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Dallin H. Oaks, First Counselor in the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, recently gave this talk, entitled *Love Your Enemies*, on 3 October 2020.

(We previously used Pope Francis as a model of respect, noting that neither he nor the Catholic Church endorsed the PAC or its positions. We repeat the same here as to President Oaks. Neither he nor The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints endorse the PAC or its positions.)

We live in a time of anger and hatred in political relationships and policies... We feel it in some current campaigns for public offices.

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In a democratic government we will always have differences over proposed candidates and policies. However, as followers of Christ we must forgo the anger and hatred with which political choices are debated or denounced in many settings.

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Anger is the way to division and enmity. We move toward loving our adversaries when we avoid anger and hostility toward those with whom we disagree. It also helps if we are even willing to learn from them.

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"We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers, and magistrates, in obeying, honoring, and sustaining the law" ([Articles of Faith 1:12](#)). This does not mean that we agree with all that is done with the force of law. It means that we obey the current law and use peaceful means to change it. It also means that we peacefully accept the results of elections. We will not participate in the violence threatened by those disappointed with the outcome. In a democratic society we always have the opportunity and the duty to persist peacefully until the next election.

www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2020/10/17oaks?lang=eng

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