

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

December 10, 2021

VIA EMAIL:

Walter E. Block, Ph.D.

Harold E. Wirth Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair and Professor of Economics

Loyola University New Orleans

Re: Another complaint

Dear Dr. Block,

I write to inform you that I am in receipt of three additional complaints against you from three different students. The key allegations are troubling and they are in clear violation of Loyola's values, mission and policy. Indeed, the alleged actions are flagrant violations of the well-established principles of Catholic morality and in clear violation of Chapter 9 of the Faculty Handbook. These complaints were received during the course of our ongoing investigation into similar alleged conduct.

The three complainants allege that your statements and commentary have included such abhorrent comments as "slavery wasn't bad", "women make less money because they are lazy or incapable," "women are paid less because they don't work as hard, and it's the same with people of color", and that "'Disability Act' shouldn't exist." One of the students noted that you openly expressed your racist, homophobic, transphobic and sexist statements publicly in classes, in your writings, and in your emails. This had a profoundly negative impact on the student's experience at Loyola.

These alleged actions indicate a pattern of complete disregard for Loyola's values and mission considering the prior investigation and complaints we have received from students. Central to our Jesuit, Catholic identity is our commitment to human dignity and the whole person. I am extremely disappointed that, in spite of your written commitment to "do better", you seem to continue to ignore your obligation as a faculty member of a Jesuit, Catholic University. You also seem to continue to create a hostile and discriminatory environment for our students.

The University has an obligation under Title IX to ensure that the educational environment is welcoming, equitable and not permeated by ridicule and comments that are derogatory on the basis of gender, race or any other classification. Faculty conduct must be guided by the principles stated in our Faculty Handbook that "concern for the student as a person is central to the Jesuit educational mission."

As with prior complaints, we will investigate these additional complaints, and you will receive a written determination regarding these alleged actions. Please note, that in light of (1) the number of

complaints we received regarding the substantially same alleged conduct, (2) the impact these alleged actions is having on our students, (3) Loyola's legal obligations, and (4) your apparent continued violation of your obligations under the Faculty Handbook, Loyola may be forced to institute disciplinary proceedings under Chapter 9 of the Faculty Handbook based upon the outcome of these investigations.

Sincerely,

Tanuja Singh, DBA

Provost and SVP of Academic Affairs

tsingh@loyno.edu

cc: Michael Capella, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Business