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MADISON

A BETTER CHANCE

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January 2021

To the Madison Community and supporters of Madison ABC,

On Wednesday, we all watched in horror as an assault on our democracy and the U.S. Capitol was carried out by extremists. These were acts of sedition, and they must be condemned as such. It is difficult to process the emotions that arose watching the tragic events unfold. The Madison ABC Program emphatically condemns this violence and any attempts to disrupt the peaceful transfer of power that has been the harbinger of American democracy. Additionally, the disparity of response and treatment of the participants in this summer's Washington, D.C. Black Lives Matter protests, compared to the treatment of participants in Wednesday's act of insurrection cannot be ignored. Although in theory everyone is to be treated equal in our country, the reality is the official response to violent actors in our society is not always equitable.

The United States has been a beacon of democracy for over 200 years. Other nations have looked to and followed our commitment to democratic tenets. We are, first and foremost, a nation of laws. Justice is pursued and achieved through the courts. Madison ABC is committed to the search for truth, not falsehoods and half-truths, regardless of political affiliation. As a program dedicated to the opportunity for betterment through education, Madison ABC will stand steadfast in our dedication to democracy, the rule of law and how to critically examine information to reach valid conclusions.

We have much work to do in this country to approach the goals that form the basis of our country— "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Thomas Virgulto
President Madison ABC