

From: Chris Bonney chris@[REDACTED]
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Subject: Displeasure with Turning Point USA presence at First Colonial High School
To: School Board

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Dear Members of the Virginia Beach School Board,

The parent of a student who is in the Legal Studies Academy reports that a representative of Turning Point USA recently attended a meeting of students at the Legal Studies Academy at First Colonial High School. This is very disturbing, even more so in light of an earlier decision by someone within the school system to prevent the Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates from visiting with students in the same program.

It would be one thing if Turning Point USA's presence was related to a Constitutional matter. But that's an indefensible position. They can't hide being the First Amendment. Turning Point USA has a well documented history of racism, misogyny and ugly Christian nativism. (And as for being Christian, you couldn't find an organization, aside from perhaps the Ku Klux Klan, that is more out of touch with the teachings of Christianity.)

What example does this set for the children of our city, or for our City as a whole?

It would be one thing if Turning Point USA hired a public hall and invited people in to hear their hateful point of view. But this was in a public high school of students of many races, faiths, genders, socioeconomic circumstances and, likely, developing political viewpoints. They deserve better than this.

Who wants to live in a city or bring a business to the city where this is tolerated? I sure wouldn't.

If what this parent reports is true, I can't tell you how disappointed I am. My child received the best that the Vb School System could offer. But if I still had a child in that school, I'd pull her out and send her to a private school.

Thank you for your service to the City and our students.

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