

Nike Shareholder Meeting Question
Justin Danhof, Esq., General Counsel and Free Enterprise Project Director
The National Center for Public Policy Research, September 21, 2017

I'm Justin Danhof of the National Center for Public Policy Research. We want to ask about the company's public positions and its commitment to diversity.

Following President Trump's initial executive order on travel and immigration, CEO Mark Parker blasted the order. In an email to all company employees, he wrote, "Nike believes in a world where everyone celebrates the power of diversity."ⁱ Polling indicates nearly half of registered voters support Trump's actions on immigration.ⁱⁱ Certainly the company employs a few such supporters who may have felt threatened by Mr. Parker's email. Furthermore, after Starbucks similarly came out against Trump's proposed travel restrictions, *Business Insider* reported that "Starbucks' brand ha[d] taken a beating."ⁱⁱⁱ

Nike also publicly blasted President Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord.^{iv} Again, polling on Trump's decision shows a nation that is deeply divided and largely split along partisan lines.^v Surely the company has employees who support the President's decision not to knee-cap the American economy relative to nations such as China and India.

These are just two examples in a long line of Nike's left-leaning public stances.

The topic of workplace ideological diversity recently became heightened with the firing of a Google engineer who dared to question the liberal groupthink at that company.^{vi}

Does Nike's management consider the impact on its conservative and libertarian employees when it consistently takes liberal public policy positions? If so, why don't their opinions seem to matter?

*Contact: Judy Kent at (703) 759-7476 or cell (703) 477-7476 or jkent@nationalcenter.org
National Center for Public Policy Research
20 F Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20001
www.nationalcenter.org • www.conservativeblog.org • [@NationalCenter](https://twitter.com/NationalCenter)*

ⁱ <http://www.businessinsider.com/nikes-ceo-condemned-trumps-immigration-order-in-a-letter-to-staff-2017-1>

ⁱⁱ <http://thehill.com/homenews/administration/319570-poll-over-half-oppose-trump-immigration-order>

- iii <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/starbucks-brand-perception-plummeted-since-220353319.html>
- iv <http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/nike-issues-statement-donald-trumps-withdrawal-paris-climate-deal-1009765>
- v https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/06/05/post-abc-poll-nearly-6-in-10-oppose-trump-scrapping-paris-agreement/?utm_term=.25a6e25ee0cb
- vi <http://www.investors.com/politics/commentary/i-confronted-google-about-its-liberal-group-think-at-a-shareholder-meeting-heres-what-happened-next/>