

Tammy Duckworth ignores and insults the Indian American Community of Chicago

Oct 23rd, 2012, Schaumburg, Illinois

More than 200 Indian Americans from District 8 of Illinois, gathered at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Schaumburg, Illinois, to hear Tammy Duckworth's views on issues important to Indian Americans. On September 24th, India Tribune and NIAPPI (National Indian American Public Policy Institute, a bipartisan research and educational organization) had invited the two contestants for the Congressional seat in the newly drawn 8th District of Illinois, to debate in front of the representatives of the largest ethnic group in the district, Indian Americans. IndiaTribune diligently followed up with both offices to get a confirmation of attendance. Sitting Congressman Joe Walsh readily accepted the invitation, but Tammy Duckworth first ignored the invitation and when pressed further three times, she refused to participate on the basis of "too many debates". When reminded that Indian Americans constitute almost 10% of the vote, and that there has been no debate on issues on the minds of Indian Americans, she still refused. Indian American community was hoping that due to the numbers of votes involved in such a close race, she will change her mind at the last minute and show up, but unfortunately she did not.

NIAPPI in its logo as well as literature and website, clearly states that it derives its inspiration from the best of both Democrats and Republicans. In fact it has the pictures of both President John F Kennedy and President Reagan on its letter head. Indian Americans had put in days of efforts in formulating the questions to be asked. Both camps were advised that there would be hard hitting questions for both. Joe Walsh came prepared to answer the questions, Tammy did not even show up.

The entire US media, FOX, NBC, CBS, ABC, Sun-times, Chicago Tribune and Daily Herald were present to cover the debate. Mike Flannery Political anchor of FOX Chicago can be seen along with FOX video crew in the attached photographs.



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It is quite obvious that Ms. Duckworth does not care about the sentiments of all Indian Americans. Whereas she has enough time to spend more than 2 hours at an event sponsored by none other than CAIR who has been denounced both by senior leadership of Democrats as well as Republicans as a Terror Linked Muslim organization, she does not have time to answer questions from her largest ethnic block of voters!

Tammy Duckworth has time for extreme elements of Radical Islam, but no time for the peace loving Indian Americans! What a shame?

Congressman Joe Walsh apologized for not taking part in the debate with an empty chair and disappointing the Indian American community as he told the gathering that “it was inappropriate for him to debate with an empty chair, and that he welcomes Ms. Duckworth to debate him on issues important to Indian Americans, any time any where before the elections”

Joe Walsh repeated his call to the US Administration to honorably invite the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Narendra Modi to visit the United States of America.

Joe Walsh praised the enterprising nature and hard work ethics of Indian Americans noting that one out of seven is an entrepreneur. He said that “small businesses are the back bone of our economy, they create more than 50% of all new jobs, employ more than 70% of all workers in the US, and your community is the major contributor to that.” He also praised the economic growth in Gujarat under the stewardship of Chief Minister Modi and said “America can certainly learn from Chief Minister Modi’s growth policies in the state of Gujarat”