Dear city council members,

I'm a concerned resident. My name is Ashley Owen. I will vote no on proposition 16. Proposition 16 gives the government power to discriminate its own residents based on race and gender. This is clearly illegal and we urge our elected officials to take a stand against it. Supporters of proposition 16 state that it may benefit people of color in education and government contracting. Yet, proposition 16 merely eliminates the California constitution that prohibits discrimination based on race or gender. The majority of voters of our city are against proposition 16. We must defend our constitution.

Thank you for your attention.
Dear city council member,

Lately there were many rallies organized by residents throughout California to oppose proposition 16. Civil Rights activists, law professors, elected officials, students and parents all spoke passionately against Prop 16 in those rallies. Why was that? I learned that Prop 16 was proposed by the state assembly woman Shirley Webber, aiming to repeal Prop 209, part of California constitution, which clearly prohibits the state from discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting. Yet the state wants to repeal it. If Prop 16 passes in the Nov election, it means we the Californians allow the state to discriminate against all of us based on our race, gender or color and allow special treatment by the state in college admissions, jobs and contracting. This is totally unconstitutional and against the American value of equal rights.

Furthermore I have learnt that the ballot label was written in a very misleading fashion. It says Prop 16 allows diversity as a factor in public employment, education and contracting decisions. The legislators are playing word games with the voters. They replaced the word “discrimination” with the word “diversity”. This is discrimination in the name of “diversity”.

Let’s all not be misled by the ballot label. We should all say no to discrimination and most of all discrimination from the state level. Please vote NO on Prop 16 in Nov!

Thank you.

Teame Ozeqbe
Dear city council member,

Lately there were many rallies organized by residents throughout California to oppose proposition 16. Civil Rights activists, law professors, elected officials, students and parents all spoke passionately against Prop 16 in those rallies. Why was that? I learned that Prop 16 was proposed by the state assembly woman Shirley Webber, aiming to repeal Prop 209, part of California constitution, which clearly prohibits the state from discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting. Yet the state wants to repeal it. If Prop 16 passes in the Nov election, it means we the Californians allow the state to discriminate against all of us based on our race, gender or color and allow special treatment by the state in college admissions, jobs and contracting. This is totally unconstitutional and against the American value of equal rights.

Furthermore I have learnt that the ballot label was written in a very misleading fashion. It says Prop 16 allows diversity as a factor in public employment, education and contracting decisions. The legislators are playing word games with the voters. They replaced the word “discrimination” with the word “diversity”. This is discrimination in the name of “diversity”.

Let’s all not be misled by the ballot label. We should all say no to discrimination and most of all discrimination from the state level. Please vote NO on Prop 16 in Nov!

Thank you.